Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XX, Issue No. 254 | MONDAY OCTOBER 25, 2010 | www.saipantribune.com | 50¢

POLL RESULTS

Instead of awarding it to Integrated Professional Solutions, should the government have had opened the outsourcing of the CNMI's ARRA Office to a bid?

Yes 148

No 26

Sunday, October 24, 2010

INSIDE

Outreach Forum

The impending military buildup in the Marianas will bring business opportunities for local investors.

Business...Page 14

Anti-Japanese Protest

Hundreds of people staged an anti-Japan protest in southwestern China on Saturday.

Asia...Page 16

Just Married

Comedian Russell Brand and pop star Katy Perry were married Saturday.

Life & Style...Page 21

31 show up at DPS display of stolen items. PAGE 2

Saipan lawmakers OK cockpit license extension to 5 years. PAGE 3

Gov't revenue collection short by $0.5M; deficit at $20M

» As 7-hour work day begins today

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Preliminary reports show that the government's collection from taxes and fees reached only around $136.5 million which is some half million lower than the estimated $137 million available for government operation, while the deficit or spending beyond the budget cap is at $20 million in Fiscal Year 2010.

Inos

Deficit was earlier projected to reach as much as $24 million in FY 2010, which ended on Sept. 30.

Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos said the revenue and spending figures for FY 2010 are still subject to some accounting adjustments.

"Preliminary figures show we have

See REVENUE on Page 4

Hiring problems and equipment failures in Fitial's latest extension of CUC emergency

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial's latest extension of the state of emergency declaration for the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. cited equipment failures and hiring problems that included having the best candidates identified

See HIRING on Page 4

JAPANESE FESTIVAL HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Oblivious to what's going on around him, a boy goes about his ways while Japanese cultural dancers entertain a big crowd at the annual Japanese Autumn Festival at the Sugar King Round House in Garapan on Saturday. The festival marked the 25th anniversary of the rebuilding of the Katori Jingu Shrine at the Sugar King Park. Inset shows, from left, Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos, former first lady Sophie Tenorio, and former governor Pedro P. Tenorio walking on the festival grounds on their way to partake in a Japanese sake drinking ceremony.

See story on Page 18

ARC CLUB 200 EVENT

SIS teacher wins $15K grand prize

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
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REPORTER

For Rebecca Schroeder, striking it rich in any raffle draw she joined has never happened. But her unlucky streak took a different turn Saturday night at the Fiesta Resort & Spa poolside.

The elusive stroke of luck brought the Saipan International School Math and English teacher the grand prize of $15,000 in the American Red Cross Club 200 event.

With this year's Island of Love: Swingin' '60s Saipan Style, the Club 200 is the biggest annual fundraising event of the American Red Cross NMI Chapter.

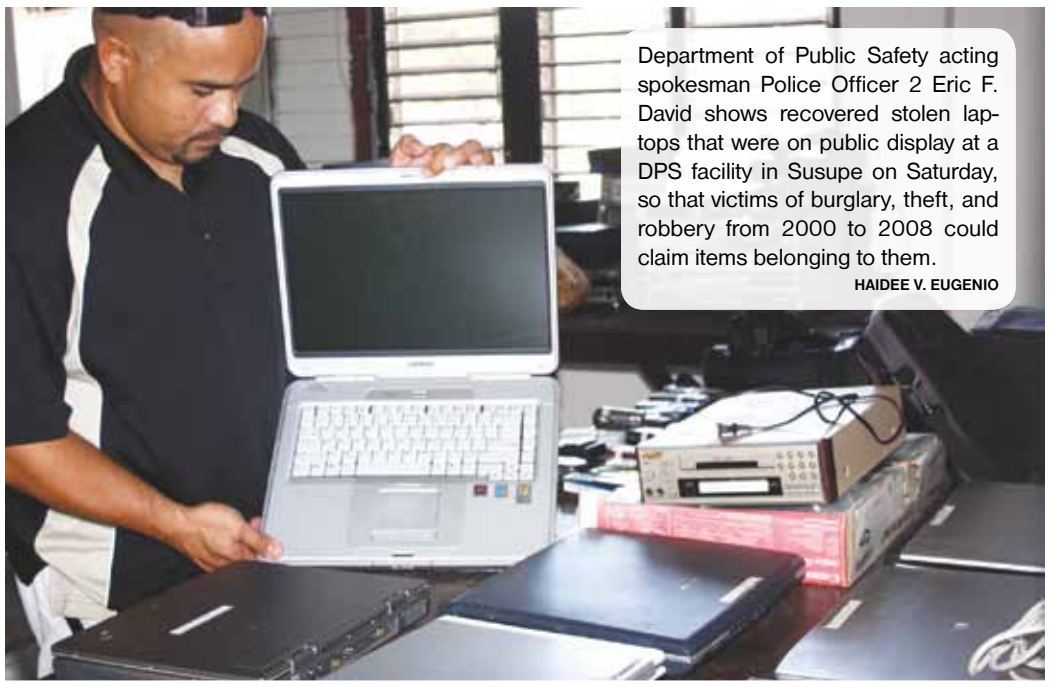
The very surprised Rebecca was speechless as she was

See SIS on Page 4

CLARISSA V. DAVID

Rebecca Schroeder, a Saipan International School middle school teacher, raises her hand while holding the grand prize of $15,000 during the American Red Cross Club 200 event at Fiesta Resort & Spa last Oct. 23. With Rebecca is her husband Jason Schroeder.

Local



Department of Public Safety acting spokesman Police Officer 2 Eric F. David shows recovered stolen laptops that were on public display at a DPS facility in Susupe on Saturday, so that victims of burglary, theft, and robbery from 2000 to 2008 could claim items belonging to them.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

31 show up at DPS display of stolen items

» Only 2 get back their items; DPS plans to hold another display

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Two preserved cobras in two liquor bottles, a pair of cowboy boots, several TV sets, laptops, digital cameras, video cameras, bush cutters, stereo equipment, power tools, gardening tools, and many other items were among the recovered stolen items that were put on public display at the Department of Public Safety on Saturday.

Of 31 people who showed up, only two positively identified items as belonging to them. Six boxes of plates and glasses were released to the two owners who lost the items during a burglary at their houses.

Among the numerous unclaimed items was a brand new Sony projector that has a marking that it belongs to the Public School System.

The items were displayed at the former DPS Criminal Investigation Bureau office from 9am to 3pm. The items were procured as a result of numerous search and seizure operations conducted by the DPS CIB.

The cases spanned from investigating narcotics activities, burglary, theft and robbery from 2000 to 2008.

Detective Jeffrey Olopai, operating supervisor at DPS CIB, told *Saipan Tribune* that acting commissioner Ambrosio Ogumoro spoke with the Attorney General about the idea of conducting public display of the unclaimed stolen items.

"These items have been in the DPS storage room for the longest time. We decided to have a proactive approach by having this public display," Olopai said.

The detective said if a person would identify an item, DPS would just fill up the chain of custody and release it to the owner.

Olopai said they would consult with the AG whether it is possible to hold a public auction with the remaining items.

"A lot of people were looking for their jewelry, but there's no jewelry on the display, " he said.

Last week, Ogumoro encouraged anyone who may have been a victim of a burglary, theft or robbery within 2000 to 2008 to take advantage of the display.

Ogumoro said victims should bring any proof of ownership such as receipts, pictures, DPS complaint reference cards or anything confirming rightful ownership of such properties.

DPS acting spokesman Police Officer 2 Eric David on Saturday said they would recommend another public display before doing a public auction.

David took *Saipan Tribune* to their storage room where more unclaimed stolen items have been secured.

David pointed to two weighing stations that he believes would take a forklift to carry.

Among the stolen items in the storage room were four- and two-foot statues of the Virgin Mary.

David said it is unbelievable that even Virgin Mary statutes were stolen.

A law office employee was among those who checked the display but could not find her jewelry, appliances, and other items that were stolen during three burglary incidents at her house and her car in 1996 and 1999.

The employee, who asked not to be identified, said she was hoping she could recover some items particularly a letter that her father wrote when he was still alive.

She said the letter is very important because it contained the partition of his father's property.

The employee said that in 1996 her house in Puerto Rico was burglarized twice and among items stolen were an air-conditioner, VCR player, TV set,

See STOLEN on Next Page

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Saipan lawmakers OK cockpit license extension to 5 years

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

A local bill extending the cockpit license from one to five years and imposing a $10,000 minimum bid annually is now on its way to Gov. Benigno R. Fitial after the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation passed it during a session on Friday afternoon.

Rep. Ray N. Yumul's (R-Saipan) House Local Bill 17-21, which amends the Saipan Cockfighting Act of 1994, passed on a 16-1 vote.

Yumul said the current cockfighting law's requirement of an annual license period is not long enough for cockpit operators to recoup their investment and enhance their arenas because of a legitimate fear of losing their license at the next year's bidding.

Only Sen. Luis Crisostimo (D-Saipan) voted "no" among the 17 of 21 Saipan lawmakers present. Four delegation members were absent, including House Speaker Froilan Tenorio (Cov-Saipan).

"Five years is too long… It will affect local bidders," Crisostimo told his colleagues, saying that because of the minimum bid of $10,000 a year or $50,000 for five years, only foreign investors may be able to bid.

Rep. Frank Dela Cruz (R-Saipan) said five years "is more than ample time to get the most bang for the buck," and that it doesn't matter whether local or foreign investors bid for the cockpit operations as long as they are regulated.

Rep. Rafael Demapan (Cov-Saipan) said amending the licensing and bid requirements will help deter illegal cockpits and cockfights, and will generate revenue not only from the cockfight but also the supporting businesses such as the operation of a canteen in the vicinity.

Saipan lawmakers adopted Yumul's floor amendment to his own local bill. This is to ensure that within 60 days of the local bill becoming law, the Saipan mayor and the cockpit board in consultation with cockpit operators shall promulgate the regulations, a copy of which to be provided also to the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation.

Yumul's floor amendment also tightens penalties for violations of the Saipan Cockfighting Act, including a $600 fine or imprisonment of up to three months, or both.

The local bill prohibits any person, firm, corporation, partnership, business association, or other entities from operating a cockpit or a cockfight at a time and place where a fee is charged for admission or betting takes place, unless they are licensed to do so.

Ramon B. Camacho, chair of the Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council, also wrote a constructive comment on the local bill in July.

$150,000 contract underway to solve Medicare's concern on dialysis center

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

A contract amounting to $150,000 has been awarded to finally solve the concerns of Medicare on the Commonwealth's Hemodialysis center which opening has been stalled for years due to noncompliance with standards.

Esther Muna, public health acting deputy secretary for hospital administration, confirmed to *Saipan Tribune* that the manufacturer of the reverse osmosis system had made an assessment of the current RO system and proposed the contract in order to obtain the 510(k) certification.

She said the proposal included increasing the recovery rate from 9,600 gallons per day to 12,000, installation, and training.

Muna admitted that the last survey from Medicare still cited the Commonwealth Health Center for its environmental issues and moving to the new facility will address those issues.

Saipan Tribune learned that in order to participate in the Medicare program, the water treatment system, including the reverse osmosis (RO) system, must meet Food and Drugs Administration's 510(k) requirements.

Muna disclosed that since the system had been modified prior to replacing the system that was not 510(k) certified, it voided its certification as well. "FDA certifies the water treatment system and it is the manufacturer who requests FDA 510(k) certification. Unless CHC obtains this certification as evidence to present to Medicare, Medicare cannot approve transfer to the new hemodialysis facility even if we meet compliance with all of the other conditions of participation."

It was disclosed that the current water quality and bacteriology results are within acceptable parameters of the RO system at the new facility.

But Muna said this doesn't matter because the transfer to the new site must present a 510(k) certification as evidence and since CHC don't have that in its possession, Medicare won't approve the transfer.

Once the RO system receives its FDA certification, Muna said CHC will inform Medicare of the facility's readiness for a resurvey and request approval to transfer to the new site.

The opening of the Hemodialysis Center is being delayed by the lack of certification from Medicare. It was learned that there are a total of 38 stations in the center and is estimated to treat 27 patients all at the same time.

It was during the Babauta administration in 2004 when the dialysis project was initiated. However, due to funding issues this was not been completed on time until serious problems were discovered on the project, including flawed in its design. Recently, the case has been settled by both parties in the amount of $2 million.

STOLEN

From Page 2

video camera, and high chair.

Since the two burglaries, she decided to keep her important documents and jewelry inside her car.

In 1999, the employee's car parked outside the Nauru Building (now called Marianas Business Plaza) in Susupe was also burglarized and stolen were cash, jewelry, credit cards, black checks, and the letter.

She believes that the burglar used a master key considering that there was no forced entry into her vehicle.

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- Participants must register at F&B Office.
- Participants must purchase a gift certificate for two (2) of either Sunday Brunch or Seafood Buffet (20% discount is offered)
- Participants will receive one (1) whole pumpkin, free of charge. It must be returned by Friday, October 29, no later than 5:00 pm

Pumpkins are available beginning Monday, October 25, 2010
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'Ada failed to transfer ARRA knowledge to collegues'

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Former Commerce Secretary Michael J. Ada's inability to "transfer knowledge" to his colleagues in government about the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act during his frequent trips to the U.S. since 2009 gave him undue advantage over any potential bidders had the bid for ARRA management been put out for bids, sources privy to the issue said.

"Mr. Ada made several trips to the U.S. for ARRA and gained extensive knowledge about ARRA but did not share those with his colleagues either at Commerce or any government agency. That in itself makes us question the motive behind not transferring knowledge," one of the sources privy to the matter said.

In addition, the Office of the Public Auditor has yet to respond to media inquiry whether it is initiating an investigation into Ada's sole-source contract over alleged violation of the CNMI Ethics Act.

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial awarded $392,406 sole-source contract to Ada's Integrated Professional Solutions LLC to privately manage the ARRA program for the CNMI government, shortly after Ada stepped down both as CNMI Commerce secretary and as ARRA state lead for the CNMI.

The Fitial administration also awarded the contract even before Ada applied for, and granted, a CNMI business license to operating a private consulting firm.

U.S. Vice President Joe Biden, who has been tasked by President Obama to implement the ARRA, asked the office of Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan last week for a copy of the sole-source contract and other related information.

The Fitial administration is in "the process of gathering the requested documents for transmittal," said press secretary Angel Demapan.

The sole-source contract is for 18 months.

The Fitial administration said Ada has an advantage among other possible bidders should the government bids out the management of the ARRA program, because of Ada's extensive and historic knowledge of the program.

The governor said the government will not risk losing some $100 million in ARRA funding just because there's no continuity of effective management of ARRA which only Ada can provide.

The Fitial administration said people have to understand that the $392,406 contract is not only for Ada but for his employees and operational expenses, such as office and car leases, employees insurance and employee salaries.

SIS

From Page 1

called up on the stage to receive her check.

As the shock somehow worn off, Rebecca recounted a story about how she got an offer to share the ticket cost with someone.

"I got this offer from a guy at a Shell Station. He told me that we should split the ticket cost 50/50 so we can divide the prize money if the ticket was called," she said.

Rebecca was joined by her equally surprised husband Jason up on the stage, as their friends among the Club 200 crowd cheered for the very lucky couple.

In an interview with the *Saipan Tribune*, Rebecca said she has never won a single raffle in her life.

"This is my first time to win a raffle and I'm still in shock," said the member of the CNMI Women's Soccer Team.

According to Rebecca, she and husband Jason bought their two tickets for the Club 200 event last Tuesday.

Rebecca said she called her family in the States to inform them about her good fortune. As it turned out, the stroke of luck also reached out to her brother.

"At the very moment that I won the raffle, I found out that my brother became a proud father of a baby boy!" exclaimed Rebecca.

Rebecca, who has been on Saipan since August 2004, said she has always supported the biggest fundraising event of the American Red Cross local chapter.

With her $15,000 winnings, Rebecca said she and Jason will plan a much-needed vacation but has yet to decide on their destination. The newlyweds were married in December 2009.

Aside from the grand prize, 42 exciting prizes were given away on Oct. 23, including cash prizes, hotel accommodations, lunch and dinner buffets, and airline tickets.

Alex Sablan of Saipan Shipping Company was the top winner of the treasure chest raffle draw as he won over $1,700 worth of prizes.

Flowers and peace signs filled the venue and the crowd was in full Swingin' '60s Saipan Style as they relived the 1960s era of mods, rockers, and hippies through video presentations.

A $100 worth of Cosmos Distributors gift certificate went to Public School System legal counsel Kelley Butcher for sporting her Austin Powers-inspired and very mod black and white costume.

According to Butcher, her mod costume was actually her Halloween costume from last year. She beat two couples who sported matching flower-power and tie-dyed costumes.

"Everybody was just hippie and I was very mod," said Butcher when asked what made her costume stand out.

During the event, the American Red Cross NMI Chapter gave special recognition to Lou Johnson, Roxanne Ferrer, Joe Jetnil, and the Bank of Guam for their continued support to the humanitarian organization.

HIRING

From Page 1

for vacant positions—such as for the Drinking Water and Wastewater Division manager—declining the job offers.

Fitial extended the CUC emergency declaration on Oct. 20, or over two years since the original declaration in August 2008 that suspended CUC's procurement rules, among other things.

The governor said since September, CUC's Wastewater Division has had to rent vehicles in order to get its crews to trouble areas because six of its vehicles are in such bad shape that they are dangerous.

"Even more alarming is that during the past month, both of the CUC-owned backhoes (one for water operations, and one for wastewater operations) have been broken, gone out of service, and await repair parts," Fitial said.

CUC also has had to rent backhoes for simply performing routine water and wastewater operations functions on a daily basis during the past month.

10,000 failed water meters

Water metering and billing of customer water usage by volume continues to be a challenge for CUC.

The water meters installed on Saipan over the past five years have experienced nearly complete failure.

Fitial said nearly 10,000 water meters by serial number have been reported by CUC to the Water Task Force as failed.

The task force, in turn, has reported these meters to the manufacturer for warranty purposes.

"While CUC has made huge strides in the past month with replacing approximately 1,000 broken meters with warranty supplied meters, and reducing the number of customers whose water bills are not based on consumption (from 4,490 to 3,462), there are still many customer meters to address," the governor said.

Compounding the challenge is CUC's recent experience with the nearly 400 water meter failures of the warranty meters provided by the manufacturer as replacement meters.

"The manufacturer has begun to indicate opposition to providing more replacements," the governor said.

CUC is required to install meters to meet the requirements of federal Stipulated Order 1, the Public Utilities Commission, and its own need for system revenue.

Hiring disadvantages

The governor said hiring qualified technical experts from the pool of U.S. citizens and permanent residents is extremely difficult due to the CNMI's competitive disadvantages, including salary/benefit packages, and the distance from the mainland.

"For instance, in October 2010, the top candidate for manager of Drinking Water and Wastewater turned down CUC's offer. The targeted recruit for the Health, Safety and Environment officer also turned down a CUC offer," he said.

The challenge to CUC is that it is recruiting for positions from a U.S. labor pool in which the targeted candidates are already gainfully employed, as opposed to the other professionals in other segments of the U.S. economy.

For instance, one of CUC's own local employees, a supervisor in Wastewater Division, moved to Oregon early in 2010 and was soon hired by the local wastewater and water district.

CUC engineer staff shortages also continue to hamper the agency's ability to anticipate and fix technical problems. While CUC's Water/Wastewater Division needed to add engineers to its staff of three engineers, in order to fix the poor condition of the CUC sanitation assets, significant engineering resources have been focused on addressing the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's stipulated order issues.

Nonetheless, CUC engineering and operations departments hired four new engineers this past month, with one engineer assigned to the wastewater projects grants and construction management, one assigned to design, one to water operations, and one to wastewater operations.

"However, given the extensive engineering department workload, three more engineer staff members are still needed. CUC has just hired another, with the employee scheduled to arrive in January 2011," the governor said.

Copies of his latest CUC emergency declaration extension were also sent to the presiding officers of the Legislature.

CUC also lacks enough experienced plumbers and pipe-fitters.

Skilled pipe-fitters are needed to repair failing CUC piping and related infrastructure, such as valves and hydrants.

Water line breaks

The governor said CUC also continues to suffer an unprecedented number of waterline breaks and resultant water loss.

In one day in September, there were six new leaks reported which required repair crews to work significant overtime. All repair work was performed using rental backhoes, as CUC's backhoes were broken.

CUC professionals consider that the number of leaks the company experiences to be excessive, particularly because CUC does not provide 24-hour water and does not properly pressurize the water system.

"Put simply, Saipan does not have enough water. CUC professionals categorize much of the Saipan water distribution system as 'fatigued.' They do not believe that the number of breaks in the system will decline in the foreseeable future," Fitial said.

Pump and motor problems perpetuate the problem. There are 13 pumps down in October 2010, including four big ones. CUC's water system in mid-September 2010 experienced several pump/motor failures.

REVENUE

From Page 1

collected about $136.5 million. At this point, without all those other adjustments, we're looking at half a million short on the revenue side. Besides accounting adjustments, the statute gives us 90 days to close the books and make the final report," Inos said in an interview at the annual Japanese Autumn Festival on the grounds of the Sugar King Round House in Garapan on Saturday.

Today also marks the first day of a seven-hour workday for many government agencies and offices in the Executive Branch.

This is in line with the 16-hour work cut per pay period that started yesterday and is embedded in the FY 2011 budget law, to be able to live within the $132 million spending cap.

This means many Executive Branch agencies now operate 64 hours instead of the normal 80 hours per pay period.

Under the 64-hour work schedule per pay period, office hours on Mondays to Thursdays will be from 8:30am to 4:30pm, instead of 7:30am to 4:30pm.

On a non-payday Friday, work hours will revert to the normal 7:30am to 4:30pm schedule.

However, during payday Fridays, government offices in the Executive Branch will be closed.

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial issued a two-page memo on Friday, stating that the 16-hour work cuts will apply to locally funded and federal funded employees under the Executive Branch, except for critical service personnel.

Those exempted include sworn police officers, firefighters, corrections officers, juvenile detention unit officers, physicians or doctors, and nurses, who are required to report for duty pursuant to their respective approved work schedules.

"While I recognize that certain offices and/or functions may be required to adopt a modified 64-hour work schedule to meet certain needs and requirements, written requests must be submitted to my office and must be approved before any modified 64-hour work schedule may be implemented," Fitial said in his Directive 276.

The governor said it is important that all affected departments/activities ensure that all necessary actions are taken to ensure that their respective staff report for duty in accordance to his directive.

"This directive shall remain in effect until such time that it is rescinded or superseded by a subsequent directive to address certain needs as they arise," Fitial told Executive Branch department and agency heads.

Inos, in an interview, said it would be up to the Public School System and Northern Marianas College whether they would also cut their work hours by 16 per pay period.

The budget law gave NMC and PSS funding to meet the Maintenance-of-Effort agreement between the CNMI governor and the U.S. Department of Education.

"If they see the need to reduce costs and save some money, that's something they have to decide," he said.

As for the Legislature and the Judiciary, as long as they live within their means, they also need not cut their work hours unlike the Executive Branch.

At least one lawmaker, Rep. Teresita Santos (Ind-Rota), has volunteered to cut her work hours also by 16 per pay period and asked the Department of Finance to give the amount cut from her salary to the Rota Scholarship Fund.

Lawmakers, the governor, the lieutenant governor, judges and justices have salaries that are constitutionally protected from reductions.

However, Fitial and Inos have been voluntarily cutting their salaries by 10 percent.

Inos also said that the budget law allows for termination of employees to be able to reduce government spending.

"That's an option in the budget law, but that's a last resort," he added.

Allotments for the month of October have already been distributed. Inos said if agencies feel that their expenditures would exceed their allotted amount, they would need to make adjustments and each expenditure authority is given the power to make those adjustments.

Because of the failure to pass and enact a budget law by the Sept. 30 deadline, the CNMI government partially shut down for the first time. The FY 2011 budget measure was passed only on Oct. 8 and signed into law on Oct. 10.

Senate EAGI panel seeks Rota, Tinian mayors' help on board appointments

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

The Senate Committee on Executive Appointments and Governmental Investigations has sought the help of Tinian Mayor Ramon Dela Cruz and Rota Mayor Melchor Mendiola in making sure that Rota and Tinian are represented on key government boards and commissions.

Sen. Frank Cruz's (R-Tinian) EAGI Committee has withheld confirming any new appointments that the Fitial administration has made because of failure to appoint a reasonable proportion of board and commission members from Rota and Tinian.

He recommends the mayors to work closely with Gov. Benigno R. Fitial in recommending appointees to boards and commissions.

"While it is always the governor's final say, by recommending names of highly skilled and background-appropriate candidates during the governor's council meetings, we can insure our recommendations receive the response they deserve," Cruz said in an Oct. 21 letter to Dela Cruz and Mendiola.

Most appointees to boards and commissions need to undergo confirmation by the Senate.

Cruz cited as an example the Marianas Visitors Authority board of directors, the Marianas Public Land Trust board of trustees, and the Commonwealth Development Authority board of directors that have been "without representation from citizens of Tinian for more than a year."

"We cannot afford to be without a seat at the table," he added.

Senate President Paul A. Manglona (R-Rota) echoed the EAGI Committee's concerns, hoping that the mayors would recommend to the governor appointees to boards and commissions.

Cruz said MVA, for example, develops policies showcasing Tinian and Rota to the attention of tourists who bring money to the islands. CDA approves development projects crucial for infrastructure as well as loans for the creation of businesses, while MPLT makes investments.

"Without a seat on the CDA board, for example, we might lose opportunities regarding marine, agricultural and commercial activities through its loan and loan restructuring programs. We might not get full share of its work providing guarantees to private lending institutions to provide funding for new and ongoing development projects," Cruz said.

Batterer gets 30-day jail term, required to leave NMI

The Superior Court has imposed a 30-day jail term on a man who beat up his girlfriend aboard a fishing boat at Charlie Dock.

Associate Judge David A. Wiseman sentenced Erinie N. Alden to one year in prison, all suspended except 30 days.

Wiseman gave the 36-year-old Alden credit for the 30 days he already served in jail.

The sentence is consecutive to Alden's one-year jail sentence in the 2008 domestic violence case.

The judge said the sentences shall remain suspended on conditions that the defendant voluntarily depart the CNMI within 30 days or on before Nov. 20, 2010 and not return to the Commonwealth for five years.

Alden is a citizen of Pohnpei.

Wiseman noted that it is Alden's second case of domestic violence.

The judge said he would not accept the plea agreement if it wasn't that the defendant is going to depart the CNMI.

Wiseman said it is not his policy of not imposing sufficient jail term on a batterer, but that in this case he is considering protection of the victim's life and the interest of justice.

The Office of the Attorney General charged Alden with assault and battery, and disturbing the peace. He signed a plea agreement with the government and pleaded guilty to the charges.

The agreement stated that on July 25, 2010, Alden kicked his girlfriend in the face and chocked her. He damaged the fishing vessel's wooden door.

The victim suffered a swelling to the eye.

Alden also conceded to violating his probations by admitting to consuming alcoholic beverages and smoking marijuana. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Hunted ex-convict in new 'ice' trafficking charges arrested

Police arrested on Saturday Junding Qiu, an ex-convict who has been hunted by the police on charges he has been trafficking methamphetamine or "ice" again on Saipan.

Junding Qiu, a Chinese national, was arrested in Garapan driving a taxicab, *Saipan Tribune* learned.

A detective said officers conducted surveillance at Qiu's residence and saw a taxicab.

The officers followed the taxicab and pulled it over in Garapan area.

The officers identified the taxicab's driver as Qiu, who has a pending warrant of arrest for alleged trafficking "ice."

Last Wednesday, the Department of Public Safety issued a press release about Qiu being hunted by the police. DPS also released to the media the defendant's photograph.

DPS public information officer Sgt. Thomas A. Blas Jr. said that on Monday, Oct. 18, Superior Court associate judge David A. Wiseman issued the warrant of arrest for Qiu for illegal possession of a controlled substance, and trafficking of a controlled substance.

Blas in the press release then stated that the DPS Criminal Investigation Bureau detectives have been looking for Qui, but have yet to locate him from his last known address.

On June 30, 2010, Wiseman sentenced Qiu to 257 days in prison for illegal possession of "ice" in 2009.

The defendant was given credit for 257 days he already spent in jail. It means that he was released from the Department of Corrections last June 30. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

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AS OF OCTOBER 22

Election commission: 16,574 voters for November poll

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Registered voters for the Nov. 2 polls went down by 29 to 16,574 after the Commission on Elections pared it down to reflect voters who have died and those who were disqualified from voting because of their criminal record.

The Oct. 22 list of registered voters—updated with the help from the Department of Public Health and local and federal courts—include registered absentee voters, which as of Oct. 14 number 998.

The health department and the courts have until Nov. 1 to issue certifications to the election commission, or a day prior to the Nov. 2 elections for congressional delegate.

By island, the updated list of registered voters as of Oct. 22, reflect 13,500 voters on Saipan, 1.453 on Tinian, and 621 on Rota.

The election commission posted 4,465 voters in district 1 of which a big bulk is from San Vicente with 2,553, followed by Koblerville and San Antonio with 1,083 and 829 voters, respectively.

District 2, which is made up of Chalan Kanoa and Susupe, has 1,286 total voters.

District 3, which comprises of Oleai and Garapan, posted 3,464 total voters with the former having 916 voters and the latter 2,548.

Areas belonging to District 4 have the following registrants: Tanapag, 654; San Roque, 581; Capitol Hill, 438; and Northern Islands, 134.

Registrants from Kagman areas—which comprises District 5—totaled 2,478.

Tinian and Rota, meantime, has 1,453 and 1,621 registered voters, respectively.

This year's congressional election has four candidates—Republican Party's Juan N. Babauta; Democratic Party's Jesus Borja; Covenant Party's Joseph Camacho; and independent and incumbent Gregorio Kilili Sablan.

Three legislative initiatives are also placed on the ballots for people's ratification.

These include House Legislative Initiative 16-18 which authorizes the Department of Public Lands to reserve up to 20 percent of its operational expense for land compensation payments; House Legislative Initiative 16-13 which prohibits any increase in retirement benefits until all government obligations to the NMI Retirement Fund have been satisfied or the system is fully funded; and House Legislative Initiative 17-1 which wants to add a new Section 10 to Article X of the CNMI Constitution to authorize the Commonwealth to issue pension obligation bond to pay its debt to the Retirement Fund.

SHEFA reverses decision on 28 denied students; apologizes for action

The board of directors of the Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance reversed its earlier decision to deny the application of several students during its last meeting.

Board member Maggie C. Camacho disclosed to *Saipan Tribune* that 28 denied applications were reversed and therefore will be granted assistance from SHEFA.

SHEFA is a scholarship program that provides students up to $5,000 financial assistance.

Camacho admitted that the board found an oversight on the applications of many students that were denied in the program.

"There was no indication of any discrimination found upon our review of the applications, rather just an oversight on the initial reviewing. We sincerely apologize for this mishap to the affected students," said Camacho.

Officials of SHEFA earlier disapproved the applications of many students on the basis of "residency," which the affected students described as "unfair" and a violation of the existing policies and regulations of the scholarship program.

Those that were disapproved of their applications are born U.S. citizens, graduated from private and public high schools on island, and achieved higher grade point average enough for them to meet all the requirements of the scholarship program.

Denied students filed an appeal to the board last month. ***(Moneth G. Deposa)***

Barbershop employee complains of police brutality

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A barbershop employee complained of police brutality after one of 20 police officers allegedly barged inside his house in As Lito last Monday and beat him up after he was mistaken as a suspected trafficker of methamphetamine or "ice."

Jin Dong Wang, 44, a Chinese national, suffered head injuries and complained of pain in his back and body.

United Workers Movement-NMI president Rabby Syed went to Wang's house yesterday after Wang and his wife asked for assistance.

In an interview with *Saipan Tribune*, Syed urged the Office of the Attorney General and the Department of Public Safety to investigate what really happened.

Syed said according to Wang and his wife, police took Wang to the Commonwealth Health Center for treatment of injuries.

Syed said Wang was later released from the hospital and was not taken to DPS.

"Beating a person even if he is a suspect is not acceptable in a healthy community," he said.

The UHM president said according to the complainant, he was cooking inside his house when about 10 to 20 officers came at 9:30am on Monday, Oct. 18.

The officers were looking for a suspected "ice" dealer and ordered Wang to sit down.

Apparently, one officer hit Wang with a handgun on the head, causing injuries. The same officer also allegedly kicked him on the back and body.

When Wang's wife arrived from work, she was surprised to see the presence of the officers at their house.

Syed said Wang denied involvement in selling "ice" and stated that the officers only mistook him as the suspect they have been looking for.

Syed said since he only got the side of Wang, he is requesting the Office of the Attorney General and DPS to investigate the matter and file appropriate charges.

INVITATION FOR BIDS
WATER TASK FORCE
IFB11-GOV-007

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lieutenant Governor Eloy S. Inos, through the CNMIWater Task Force, are soliciting sealed bids for the Well Fields Isolation and Water System Improvements in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

A bid guarantee of 15 percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of the Treasury (T-Listed).

The bidder is required to submit with his proposal a copy of his CNMI Business License in compliance with the Contractor's Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The Contractor will be required to submit payment and performance bonds from a US Treasury listed company. The Contractor will also be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal laws including the Davis Bacon Act.

This project is funded by a grant from the Office of Insular Affairs (OIA), Department of the Interior. The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the project approval from OIA.

The project consists, in general, but is not limited to:
- Conduct Construction Survey and Staking.
- Construct Permanent and Temporary Erosion Control measures.
- Perform Earthwork and Site Utilities.
- Install Air Relief Valve, Flush Hydrant, Fire Hydrant, fittings, Water System Booster Pump Stations and connections to water mains at various locations.
- Install 6,100 linear feet of 8" diameter PVC C900 distribution line, 70 linear feet of, 6" diameter PVC C900 distribution line, 4,410 linear feet of 4"diameter PVC C900 distribution line, and 1,070 linear feet of 2" diameter PVC C900 distribution line including Gate Valves and their connection to the Main Waterline.
- Modification of Existing Water Supply Pipes and other incidentals to complete the work per plans and specifications.
- Chlorination/Washing and Testing of New Waterlines.
- Reconstruction of Asphalt Pavement.

A non-refundable payment of $500 to CNMI Treasury is required for each set of Plans, Specifications, and Proposal Forms, available on or after October 18, 2010 at the Water Task Force Office, 1316 Anatahan Drive, Capitol Hill, Saipan. A mandatory pre-bid conference for this project is scheduled at 10:00 a.m., on November 2, 2010, at the WTF Conference Room, Saipan. A project site visit will be made as a part of the Pre- Bid meeting.

All inquiries shall be in writing and addressed to **Pedro Sasamoto, Program Manager**, Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950 or faxed to (670) 664-2279. Inquiries must be received no later than 4:30 PM on November 1, 2010.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, contained in the CNMI Administrative Code, Title 70 Subchapter 70-30.3. Preference is not available to local bidders in this procurement because its use is prohibited by the Federal law granting the funds for this project.

Sealed bids must be marked **"IFB10-GOV-007".** For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 3:00 pm local time November 17, 2010. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 3:00 pm local time November 17, 2010, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than November 17, 2010, and must be received no later than November 29, 2010. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly open and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 3:00 pm local time, November 30, 2010. However, if no Notices of Intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at 3:00 pm local time on November 18, 2010.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/Benigno R. Fitial Herman S. Sablan
Governor and Contracting Officer Director, Procurement and Supply

WATER TASK FORCE

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP 11-GOV-005

Project Manager For
Water Task Force Projects

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos through the Water Task Force, are soliciting sealed Proposals from qualified individuals or firms for Professional Services for Project Manager for the Water Task Force on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project Scope of Work will be available on or after **October 25, 2010** at the Office of the Director, Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan.

All questions concerning this proposal shall be submitted in writing no later than **4:30 PM, November 1, 2010** to Pedro Sasamoto, WTF Program Manager (facsimile) number: (670) 664-2279.

This project is funded by a grant from the Office of Insular Affairs (OIA), Department of the Interior. Award of this project is contingent upon receipt of project approval from OIA.

The proposal procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 70-30.3-305. Preference per Public Law 15-95 as further amended by Public Law 15-118 is not available in this procurement because its use is prohibited by the Federal law granting the funds for this project.

Proposals must be sealed and marked **"Project Manager", RFP 11- GOV-005.** One (1) original and four (4) copies must be submitted. Proposals must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply, at Lower Base, Saipan, no later than **3:00 pm, November 24, 2010 (CNMI local time).**

The CNMI reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and to waive any imperfections in any proposal if to do so will be in the best interest of the CNMI. All proposals shall become the exclusive property of the CNMI government.

/s/ Benigno R. Fitial
Governor

/s/ Herman S. Sablan
Director, Procurement & Supply

CRA: POB will prolong life of NMI retirement program

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Commonwealth retirees lauded the position of the four candidates running for the delegate seat in the Nov. 2 elections after incumbent Gregorio Kilili Sablan, Juan N. Babaua of the Republican Party, Joseph N. Camacho of the Covenant Party, and Jesus C. Borja of the Democratic Party supported the plan to float a pension obligation bond to pay off the government's debt to the pension program.

Commonwealth Retirees Association chairman Juan M. Sablan, in a report to all members of the defined benefit plan, said the people's approval of the pension obligation bond initiative is key to prolonging the life of the pension program.

"The proceeds from the bonds will be able to prolong the life of and provide better liquidity of the Retirement Fund," said Sablan, adding that there are more than 6,000 retirees and active employees who are members of the defined benefit plan.

Sablan downplayed the argument that the pension obligation bond, once ratified by the voters, will increase employee and employer's contribution rates, but disclosed that the proposed floatation of over $200 million to pay for the government's obligation to the Fund would realistically make the NMI retirement program fully funded.

At present, Fund investment portfolio amounts to over $300 million which means that the retirement program is only 42 percent funded compared to the estimated $700 million needed to pay for all the benefits of current members, or to become fully funded.

NMI Fund board trustees earlier disclosed that if the government is allowed to borrow over $200 million to pay for its unpaid employer contribution to the program, the Fund will be able to inject $500 million to its portfolio which will bring the retirement program to the 72 percent funding level.

At present, Fund recorded an accrued unfunded liability of over $500 million, or the amount short to pay all members' benefits if the program is terminated.

The government is now mandated to pay 30 percent employer's contribution rate to satisfy the court judgment that determined that the central government owed over $231 million in unpaid employer's contribution for many years. This figure is growing.

HLI 17-1 wants to add a new Section 10 to Article X of the CNMI Constitution to authorize the Commonwealth to issue pension obligation bond to pay its debt to the Retirement Fund.

"The government cannot pay one time its obligation to the Fund. This approach of securing pension bonds and updating its obligations with the Fund is the most favorable approach for both the government and the agency," added Sablan.

Besides the POB, there are other options presented by the board to address its unfunded liability through the Five-Point Plan.

Fund notifies agencies of lapsed WCC coverage for gov't employees

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Government employees currently have no insurance coverage after the government failed to remit contributions to the Worker's Compensation Commission, according to NMI Retirement Fund administrator Richard S. Villagomez.

"WCC records indicate that no government payments have been remitted to the Government Employee's Self-Insurance Fund, or the Special Disability. This failure to pay triggers the application of the penalties and interest provisions of 4 CMC 9341(g)," Villagomez stated in his memorandum sent Monday to all government agencies.

According to Villagomez's memorandum, by virtue of the law's provision any employer with at least 200 employees may elect to be self-insured and shall pay into the Special Disability Fund an amount equal to one percent of the total salaries paid but not to exceed $1,500. Pursuant to law, the salaries from which to determine the payment to the disability fund shall be made quarterly.

Seven government agencies have over 200 employees while 30 other agencies have less than 200 personnel. The government employs an estimated 5,000 staff.

Villagomez said government employers who have less than 200 employees are required to obtain Workers Compensation Commission policy coverage.

"The failure to make these required payments, in turn, forces private industry to shoulder this burden and acts as an indirect tax on these private employers and carriers. As former scions of private industry, the central government's individual decision-makers cannot claim ignorance of this obligation," stated Villagomez memorandum

He added that the only remedy for the non-coverage is the government's prompt payment to the Worker's Compensation Commission. Remittance, however, will not prevent the coverage gap that currently exists.

Villagomez said there is a clear ground of coverage denial for any government employees who have been injured on the job because of the government's failure to remit payment.

"Therefore, no workers' compensation coverage exists for government employees' workplace injuries of non-contributing government employers," he said.

US MILITARY CONTRACTING
Small Business Outreach Forum
OCTOBER 27th, 2010 - 8:00am-4:30pm
Tinian Dynasty Hotel
Hosted by the Tinian Chamber of Commerce

FEATURED SPEAKERS

Honorable Mayor Ray Dela Cruz
Municipality of Tinian and Aguiguan

Mr. John Jackson
Director of the Joint Guam Program Office

Mr. Richard Solander
Project Manager
Office of Economic Adjustment
Office of the Secretary of Defense

Mrs. Vera Topasna
Program Manager
US Department of Defense Procurement Technical Assistance Center

Mr. Albert Sampson
Small Business Advisor
NAVFAC Marianas

RADM Paul J. Bushong
US Defense Representative for Micronesia

CAPT Peter S. Lynch
Commanding Officer of NAVFAC Marianas

Mr. Frank Crisostomo-Kaaihue
Director
Guam Veterans Business Outreach Center

Mr. Casey Jeszenka
Network Director
Pacific Islands Small Business Development Center

Mr. Christopher Dunsmore
Defense Logistics Agency (DLA)–Pacific Guam

The **Tinian Chamber of Commerce US Military Contracting Small Business Outreach Forum** will be held on **October 27th, 2010** and begins at **8AM (registration) 9AM(first speaker) and ends at 4:30PM** the same day. Participants can therefore attend the meeting during the day on Tinian and be able to return back to Guam or Saipan the same day if necessary. Registration is $25 with no lunch or $45 with lunch. All funds collected go to the Tinian Chamber of Commerce in order to cover expenses of hosting the event. To register, please visit
www.TinianChamber.com

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced persons for the position of Executive Director of the Pacific Power Association (PPA).

The PPA is an international inter-governmental agency, and a Member of the Council of Regional Organizations in the Pacific (CROP). The PPA's role is to improve the performance of the region's power utilities understanding that good performing power utilities contribute to the economic development of the Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs) and assist with poverty alleviation.

It carries this out through the sharing of each other's expertise, experience and resources in training, secondments, utility information, management, overall functions and other activities of benefit to the members and their PICTs.

The Association comprises an Active Membership of 25 power utilities across the Pacific Islands region and more than fifty-six (56) Allied Members from New Zealand, Australia, USA, Germany, Canada, Japan and the Pacific region who are actively involved in the power industry in the Pacific region

The PPA represents the Pacific islands power sector at international and regional fora, and interacts closely with a wide range of bilateral and multilateral development partners including the European Union, the Asian Development Bank, Australia, New Zealand, and the USA for funding of regional programmes. It also liaises and interacts with Regional bodies such as the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, the Secretariat of the Pacific Community, the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme, IUCN, University of the South Pacific and other established regional organizations in areas of mutual interest and cooperation.

The Executive Director manages the affairs of the PPA under the guidelines given in the Memorandum and Articles of Association and as directed by the Board.

The Executive Director is responsible and fully accountable to the Board of Directors comprising the Chief Executives of the member island power utilities, and a representative of the Allied Members.

The PPA Secretariat manages an annual budget of approximately US$500,000 from membership contributions and is supplemented by funds sourced through development partners' support. Some of the key responsibilities involve supervision the Secretariat staff, supervising consultants, project management, directing the Association's regional programmes, managing the Association's funds, maintaining support from the development partners', liaising and coordinating member services and organizing annual meetings and conferences.

The position requires a person professionally qualified electrical engineer recognized by international institutions with at least ten (10) years in power utilities with experience at senior management level for five (5) of those years, preferably within the Pacific Island's region. The position demands skills in forging and maintaining an association with a large and geographically isolated membership, a knowledge and interest of outside support institutions, and strong consensus behind the Association's programme. This requires leadership, managerial skills, diplomacy, and excellent communication and analytical skills. In addition to these skills, the successful candidate must have a good understanding of the whole of the Pacific Islands region and its peoples and cultures.

The position is base at the PPA Secretariat office located in Suva, Fiji, but will require extensive travel throughout the region and external to the region. The appointment carries an attractive remuneration package, payable in US dollars, which will be based on the qualifications and experience of the successful applicant. At present Fiji tax on this salary will be payable under the laws of Fiji. The appointment will be for three years initially, renewable for a further three years on agreement with the Board. The employment contract will be executed under the laws and jurisdiction of the Republic of Fiji.

Further information on the PPA is available by contacting the Deputy Executive Director on his email address at gordonc@ppa.org.fj and by accessing the PPA website at www.ppa.org.fj. Applicants must provide full information on relevant qualifications and experience and should give the names and contact details of at least three (3) referees with whom the applicant has been associated professionally. Applications must be received by no later than Close of Business Tuesday 9 November 2010, Cook Islands Time.

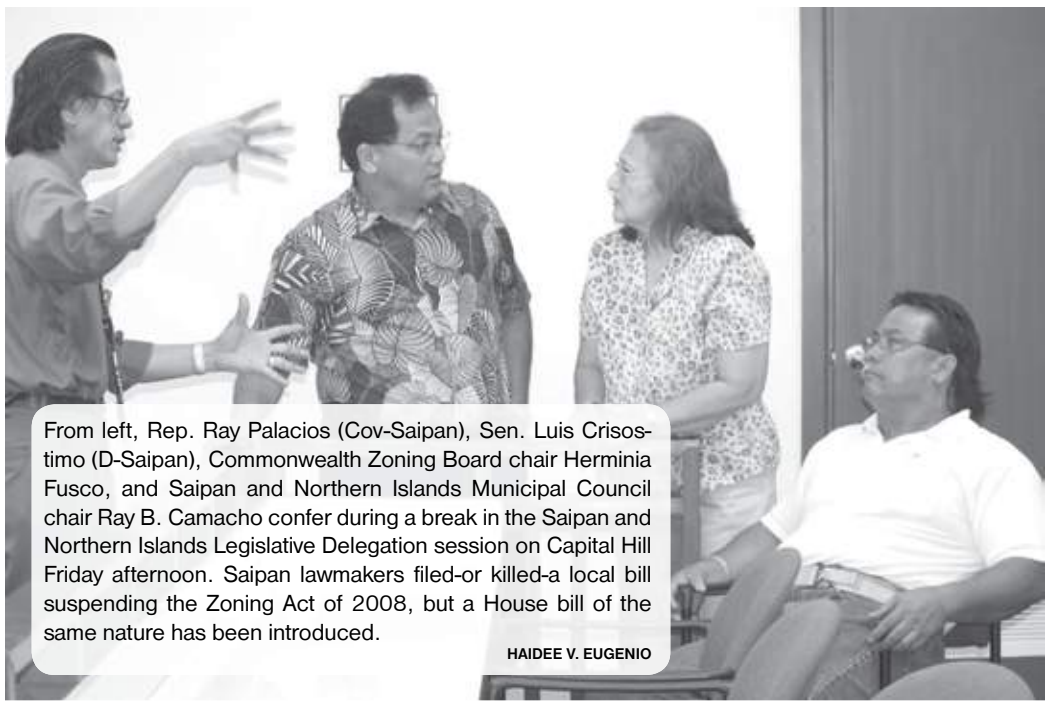
Applications should be addressed to the :

Chairman
Pacific Power Association,
Mr. Apii Timoti
Chief Executive Officer
Te Aponga Uira O Tumu-Te-Varovaro
P.O. Box 112,
Tutakimoa Road,
Avarua, Rarotonga.
COOK ISLANDS.
Tel: (682) 20 054 Fax: (682) 21 944

Applications can be also emailed to the Chairman, PPA at atimoti@electricity.co.ck

Stanley wants to rezone 17 areas anew

» As delegation kills previous bill suspending zoning law



From left, Rep. Ray Palacios (Cov-Saipan), Sen. Luis Crisostimo (D-Saipan), Commonwealth Zoning Board chair Herminia Fusco, and Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council chair Ray B. Camacho confer during a break in the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation session on Capital Hill Friday afternoon. Saipan lawmakers filed-or killed-a local bill suspending the Zoning Act of 2008, but a House bill of the same nature has been introduced.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation "filed" or killed on Friday Rep. Stanley Torres' bill suspending for six months the Saipan Zoning Law of 2008, but Torres (Ind-Saipan) introduced a new local bill rezoning 17 areas for them to become mostly "village commercial" areas.

Commonwealth Zoning Board chair Herminia Fusco said they are opposed not only to the "filed" House Local Bill 17-1, but also to the newly introduced HLB 17-26.

Fusco, who was at the delegation session on Friday on Capital Hill along with zoning administrator Douglas Wyatt, said no public hearings have been held with respect to the rezones that HLB 17-26 is proposing.

"The practice of zoning has a tremendous effect on how members of the public can use their land and other property. For this reason, it is of utmost importance that all members of the public be able to comment on instances of rezoning," Fusco said in Friday's letter to Saipan delegation chair Rep. Ray Tebuteb (R-Saipan).

During Friday's delegation session, Rep. Joseph Palacios (R-Saipan) served as acting chair because Tebuteb said he had "itchy throat." But Tebuteb was present at the session.

Saipan lawmakers, however, deferred action on HLB 17-26 because it did not meet the public notice requirement.

Torres' bill would therefore have to wait at least until the next delegation session for action.

His HLB 17-26 amends the Saipan Zoning Law of 2008 to rezone 17 previously designated residential areas to "village commercial," "mixed commercial" or "industrial" areas.

These include rezoning the entire San Roque and Chalan Piao to "village commercial" areas. These are on map sheets 5 of 29 and 24 of 29, respectively.

Torres also wants to rezone the entire Gualo Rai Loop to a "village commercial" (map sheet 16).

Others to be rezoned as village commercial areas the As Café area and part of Capital Hill (map sheet 9 of 29); As Teo, Santa Lourdes Road leading to EA 167 A, B, and C, including the private property of John M. Sablan (map sheet 11); and Navy Hill Road (south) including Manuel Sablan's property and Evergreen Apartments to Navy Hill proper, including Marianas Resort Hotel and Restaurant plus Chinatown proper leading to Freedom Lane/Drive and Korean Church toward Manamko' Center including Pellegrino's shrimp farm (map sheet 13).

They also include As Teo/Santa Lourdes Road to include Lifoifoi piggery and the Mafnas Estate (Map sheet 14); Saipan Hardware/former Poppy's Night Club adjacent to the Oleai Sports Complex (map sheet 20); and Northern Marianas College campus west to Chalan Antonio Apa Road to Tun Akin Doi Road to Monsignor Martinez Road to Monsignor Guerero Road (map sheet 23).

Torres also wants to rezone to a mixed commercial the private property of the heirs of Antonio T. Camacho (map sheet 15); south of Monsignor Guerrero Road beginning at Wenzy Corp. toward the old Zen Marz/Big Boyz Marine Sports Inc. (map sheet 19); the private property of Ray Dela Cruz to the CUC Maui well (map sheet 26); and the private property of the heirs of the late Ignacio Camacho south towards the Koblerville Mobil gas station (map sheet 27).

He also wants to rezone to industrial area the Wushin Corp. and the Sigi propane gas compound (map sheet 23); lot number 003 J 03/02 (map sheet 25); and lot numbers 043 L 89 and 043 L 109 (map sheet 29).

'Serious problems'

The Commonwealth Zoning Board said HLB 17-26 poses a number of serious problems.

Fusco, in her two-page letter to Saipan lawmakers, said the Zoning Office was only able to map seven of 17 proposed districts.

She said many of the legal descriptions are simply too vague to enforce.

"The use of colloquial place names to describe property, such as 'Lifoifoi Piggery' or 'former Poppy's Nightclub', should include the respective lot numbers in parentheses. Just using the names of property owners to describe district boundaries will lead to vagueness and suggests the practice of spot zoning," Fusco said.

She said HLB 17-26 contains a number of spot zoning.

"Judicial courts commonly view spot zoning as being illegal, which can lead to sanctions. The mentioning of certain individuals by name, within the legal descriptions, raises the question whether these rezoning actions are benefiting public or private interests," Fusco said.

She said the CNMI Legislature certainly has the power to zone. She gave as an example the State of Hawaii that has implemented statewide zoning but delegated its zoning authority to local communities that employed skills of planners and technicians to carry out the rezoning process.

Fusco said HLB 17-26 represents an attempt to zone Saipan "without any technical input, and undermines the principle of sound island planning." She said neither the Zoning Board nor the Zoning Office was consulted regarding the creation of the local bill.

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

NOTICE OF SALE
UNDER POWER OF SALE
IN DEED OF TRUST

Francisco L. Kaipat, (collectively "Trustor"), on or about February 21, 2001 gave and delivered to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, formerly known as the Mariana Island Housing Authority ("Trustee"), acting on behalf of the Department of Veterans Affairs, United States of America, ("VA"), a Deed of Trust upon certain real property hereinafter described, which Deed of Trust was recorded on February 26, 2001 under Document No. 01-268 to secure payment of a Promissory Note of the Trustor to the Trustee, acting on behalf of the VA.

The Deed of Trust and this Notice of Sale affect the property hereafter described:

LOT NO. 128 D 51, (formerly known as part of Lot 018 D 57), containing an area of 620 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 128 D 00 the original of which was recorded 07 DEC 99 as Document No. 99-2896 at Commonwealth Recorder's, Saipan.

The Trustor has defaulted on payment of the Note secured by the Deed of Trust, and by reason of said default Trustee issued its Notice of Default on August 13, 2010. More than thirty days have passed since the default notice was served on Trustor and said default has not been cured.

Pursuant to 2CMC §4622(b)(2), NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, Trustee will, on **Monday, November 15, 2010 at 10:00 a.m., at the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation's office in Garapan, Saipan** under power of sale contained in the Deed of Trust, sell the above described parcel of real property at public auction to the highest qualified bidder, to satisfy the obligations secured by said Deed of Trust. **The minimum bid offer shall be not less than $61,691.00 the total amount due under the VA loan.**

A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within 72 hours of the auction sale. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within 72 hours will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the aforementioned property will revert to NMHC. The sale shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property of the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The purchase price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check.

Trustee reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to cancel or extend the date, time and place for sale of such property. Any prospective buyer must be a person authorized by the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to hold title to real property in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

DATED this 8th day of October, 2010.

/S/ Joshua T. Sasamoto
Corporate Director, NMHC

"NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal opportunity provider, lender and employer"

MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY

INVITATION FOR BID
MVA-IFB-10-2305

For: Printing of Customs Forms

Closing Date: October 26, 2010 Time: 1:00 p.m.

Submit sealed proposals to: The Division of Procurement & Supply
P.O. Box 10008
Saipan, MP 96950

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lieutenant Governor Eloy S. Inos, through the Managing Director of the Marianas Visitors Authority are soliciting bids from qualified individuals or firms to print the CNMI Customs Declaration forms.

The scope of work may be picked up at the Marianas Visitors Authority in San Jose, Saipan during working hours from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays.

All bids must be signed, sealed and marked MVA-IFB-10-2305 and submitted with one (1) original and two (2) copies and must be received at the Office of the Director, Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base Drive, Saipan, no later than 1:00 p.m., Saipan Time, October 26, 2010.

Preference is available to U.S. Citizens or Permanent Residents as per Public Law 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118 and must be submitted with the bid of if preference is claimed.

/s/ HERMAN SABLAN
Director, P&S

/s/ PERRY P. TENORIO
Managing Director

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Oct. 25, 1999

CHC offers medical assistance

Amid concerns on the effect of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) contamination on the people's health, Department of Public Health Secretary Joseph Kevin Villagomez has made a commitment to provide the needed medical assistance to residents in Tanapag Village. According to Villagomez, three physicians from the Commonwealth Health Center will undergo training in connection with PCBs before sending them to the village to check on the local people. "Instead of waiting for these people to come to the hospital, we will go to them," he said. During last Thursday's public hearing, the local people in Tanapag expressed fears on possible health effects of PCB contamination with what they observed as increasing deaths related to cancer.

Retirement board defines scope of 1998 pension law

Civil servants who joined the government prior to the enactment of the new pension law are exempted from the new policy that requires a minimum of 10 years in government service to be eligible for retirement, the NMI Retirement Fund's Board of Trustees ruled last week. The retirement board defined the scope of Public Law 11-9 in response to the appeal filed by at least 50 claimants who were employed before April 16, 1998, the date when the new pension law went into effect. PL 11-9, which amended a previous law, has raised the length of service requirement from three to 10 years to be eligible for retirement. It covers any Class I employee who is at least 62 years old, and was hired not earlier than May 7, 1989.

Oct. 25, 2000

Hire 'outsider' for OPA post

The chair of the Senate Committee on Executive Appointments and Government Investigations yesterday backed a recommendation from outgoing Public Auditor Leo L. LaMotte to hire an outsider to replace him. Sen. Joaquin G. Adriano said that while he is leaving the appointment of new chief of Office of Public Auditor to the governor, the government should recruit from off-island or from the U.S. mainland. "That position should [be filled by someone from] the outside. I will support it based on the recommendation of Mr. LaMotte," he told reporters in an interview.

$500K civil suit filed against 2 Koreans

A Chinese national yesterday filed a $500,000 civil suit before the Superior Court against Hwang Keum Ja and Yoo Jung Ki for allegedly holding her hostage and forcing her to sign a document transferring her leasehold interest to a property in Chalan Laulau to the two Korean nationals. The complaint filed by Shen Shun AI through lawyer Joseph Aldan Arriola asked the court to declare null and void the lease agreement. Another woman was included in the complaint but her identity is still unknown. According to the complaint, Ms. AI was picked up by an unidentified woman on or about Feb. 21, 1999 at her living quarters to accompany her to Koblerville where they picked up Ms. Ja. They all proceeded to BJ Garden Restaurant located in Garapan.

Oct. 25, 2001

Senate amendments endanger election bill

Ignoring warnings of a possible executive rejection, senators voted yesterday to pass a measure that would not only extend the period for receiving absentee ballots but would also permit voter challenge. House Bill 12-421, which was originally intended to extend the receiving period for absentee ballots from seven to 14 days, was passed during yesterday's regular session with several amendments that include extending the period to 30 days, a rider redefining the term "residency" and allowing voters to challenge the eligibility of other registered voters to vote. Prior to voting, Board of Election executive director Greg Sablan had warned the senators that, if they include any more amendments besides the extension period of 14 days for absentee voters, House Bill 12-421 may be vetoed by Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio.

KATORI SHRINE ON SAIPAN

A prayer for peace and prosperity

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The chief priest of the Katori Shrine Group from Japan said the rebuilding of the Katori Shrine on Saipan in 1985, some 40 years after it was burned down during the war in 1944, is a prayer for peace and prosperity and a gesture of friendship between the two countries.

Rev. Shoji Takahashi led members of the Katori Shrine Group from Japan who arrived last Oct. 22 to perform the memorial ceremony at the Sugar King Park on Saturday.

Takahashi said the rebuilding of the shrine was made possible through the cooperation of former CNMI Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio and former Marianas Visitors Authority managing director J.M. Guerrero.

The chief priest added that the rebuilding of the Saipan Katori Shrine, which was first built in 1914, helped preserve the historical site.

Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos said the Katori Shrine has been revered by the Imperial Household as a guardian shrine of Japan since the ancient times.

Inos led the dignitaries during the 25th Katori Shrine Memorial Ceremony. Other guests included Saipan Mayor Donald G. Flores, MVA managing director Perry Tenorio, Japan Consul Tsutomu Higuchi, Tenorio, Mr. and Mrs. Guerrero, former mayor Juan Tudela, and members of the Japanese Society of Northern Marianas led by chair Nick Nishikawa.

The memorial ceremony also marked the 25th anniversary of the Japanese Society of Northern Marianas.

CLARISSA V. DAVID

Members of the Katori Shrine Group from Japan, led by chief priest Rev. Shoji Takahashi, are joined by guests for a group photo after the 25th Katori Shrine Memorial Ceremony on Oct. 23 at the Sugar King Park in Garapan.

Inos said the shrine is widely visited by people who pray for the accomplishments, wish fulfillments, good matrimony, healthy births, peace, diplomacy, victory, and protection against misfortunes.

The lieutenant governor said the Commonwealth is grateful for having the opportunity to carry out cultural exchanges with the Japanese over the past 25 years.

"For 25 years now, the CNMI and Japan have steadfastly preserved this time-honored partnership to honor a long-standing Japanese tradition of honoring the Katori Shrine. The CNMI is proud and honored to continue this bond of friendship and camaraderie with all of you," he said.

Some of the priests from Katori Shrine Group from Japan performed a rare, traditional Japanese performance called "Gagaku" during the ceremony.

Gagaku, which literally means elegant music, is a kind of Japanese classical music performed for several centuries that consists of three primary repertoires.

Nishikawa extended his appreciation to everyone who attended the ceremony, saying that their organization would like to continue working together with its CNMI friends.

He said the success of the group is built on the hard work of all its former members.

Parent Literacy Night at Saipan Southern High School

Saipan Southern High School held its first Parent Literacy Night on Friday evening. The Language Arts department hosted the event in collaboration with SSHS Book Club.

Rebecca Read, Jonathan Cabrera, and Michele Rasa modeled reading by read-aloud and book talk to attending parents. Sudi Napalan shared about the reading programs and services in the school library as well as resources including the Joeten Kiyu Public Library.

"Parental literacy is very important on a child. Parents have strong influence on their child's literacy especially when they show positive experience in reading and writing," shares Sudi Napalan. "Parent Literacy program complements our efforts in school," Napalan adds.

The Parent Literacy event concluded the Teen Read Week celebration of Saipan Southern High School. ***(PR)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Jonathan Cabrera, left, and Michele Rasa modeled reading by read-aloud and book talk to attending parents during Parent Literacy Night Friday evening.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

National Novel-Writing Month

November is National Novel-Writing Month. In 30 days, the goal is to write a 50,000-word novel! It's a madcap experience that produces results. Last year, writers in Guam and Saipan wrote 999,226 words during NaNoWriMo!!!

We'll kick things off in Saipan with a meet & greet on Thursday, Oct. 28 at 7pm at Oleai Beach Bar and Grill. Writers age 13 and older can join the world-wide write-in at www.nanowrimo.org and set your region to "Elsewhere::Micronesia" for local information. Writers under age 13 can join the Young Writers Program at http://ywp.nanowrimo.org . There is no charge to sign up—the only cost is your writing effort! But your novel-writing must wait until Nov. 1, when the fun starts.

RC&D meeting today

The Saipan Island Committee of the Marianas Resource Conservation & Development Council will hold a meeting today, Oct. 25, from 5:30 to 6:30pm at the Natural Resources Conservation Service Office in Garapan, on Beach Road. The meeting agenda will include discussion of the following subjects: the current and future status of the Beach Road solar restroom project; a proposed Memorandum of Understanding between Beautify CNMI and RC&D; and open discussion on proposals new projects, including a fishing co-op and marine/environmental science center. The public is invited and encouraged to attend and participate. For more information, contact Carl Castro, Saipan Island Committee Chair, at carljcastro@gmail.com or 287-5697. For information on special accommodations for disability, call (671) 472-7447. The USDA/NRCS RC&D Program is an equal opportunity provider."

UOG to hold workshop on grant writing for farmers

The University of Guam Cooperative Extension Service will hold a farmer grant writing workshop focusing on the grants available under the USDA Western Region Sustainable Agriculture Program. The workshop will be held Tuesday night, Oct. 26, from 6pm to 8:30pm. It will be held in Room 104 of the Agriculture and Life Sciences building on the UOG campus.

These grants are ideal for farmers, or organizations working with farmers, wanting to demonstrate a new sustainable agriculture practices. They are also suited for educators wanting to involve in students in agriculture.

The workshop will cover the completing applications, program requirements and previously funded grants to Guam and our neighbor islands. For more information call 735-2080 or 735-2081 or 735-2072. ***(PR)***

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XX, Issue No. 254

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950

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MEMBER
The Associated Press Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Stimulus vs. austerity

The U.S. and Europe are divided on the economy. But politically, both strategies appear to be losers.

In the grand global experiment now underway as countries try to cope with the economic downturn, Europe and the United States are going in opposite directions. As the Obama administration and Congress have pumped up government spending to stimulate the economy, European countries have launched austerity programs to try to bring their crushing budget deficits under control. Time will tell which economic strategy is more successful, but meanwhile, one thing is becoming clear in Western capitals from Washington to Athens: No matter what national leaders do to try to solve the crisis, they'll suffer politically.

The British government on Wednesday announced $128 billion in spending cuts over four years, reductions that will be felt by retirees, government employees, welfare recipients and even the queen. In France, a far more modest proposal to increase the minimum retirement age by two years, to 62, has sparked the worst strikes and rioting since 2006, despite widespread acknowledgement that the reform is urgently needed to put the country's public pension system on a sustainable footing. Many other European countries also have been forced to make painful spending reductions.

Much has been written about the competing economic theories at play. The Obama administration is influenced by the ideas of John Maynard Keynes, who preached that heavy government spending is needed during downturns to keep the economy afloat until markets stabilize. Washington has been trying to get Europe to do the same, but it has chosen a more free-market, Chicago School approach instead, fearing a repeat of the debt crises experienced by Greece and Ireland. Moreover, European countries have less access to capital than the United States and thus can't sustain U.S.-style deficits.

Whether you respond with stimulus or austerity, though, you're going to make people mad. In France, President Nicolas Sarkozy has seen his approval rating plunge below 35%, and polls show that as much as 71% of the French people support the strikers who are shutting down oil refineries and burning schools in response to his common-sense reforms. Though few other European countries can match France when it comes to civil unrest, leaders such as German Chancellor Angela Merkel, Spanish Prime Minister Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero and Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi have seen their popularity plummet after announcing steep spending cuts. In the U.S., meanwhile, anger over the rising deficit created by stimulus spending is helping to fuel disdain for President Obama and his party that could end Democratic control of Congress in November.

The stimulus was no magic bullet, but in the long run we suspect voters will realize that it headed off a far worse economic crisis. Nevertheless, planning for a little austerity—meaning efforts to pay off the debt the government has accumulated—wouldn't be a bad idea on this side of the pond.

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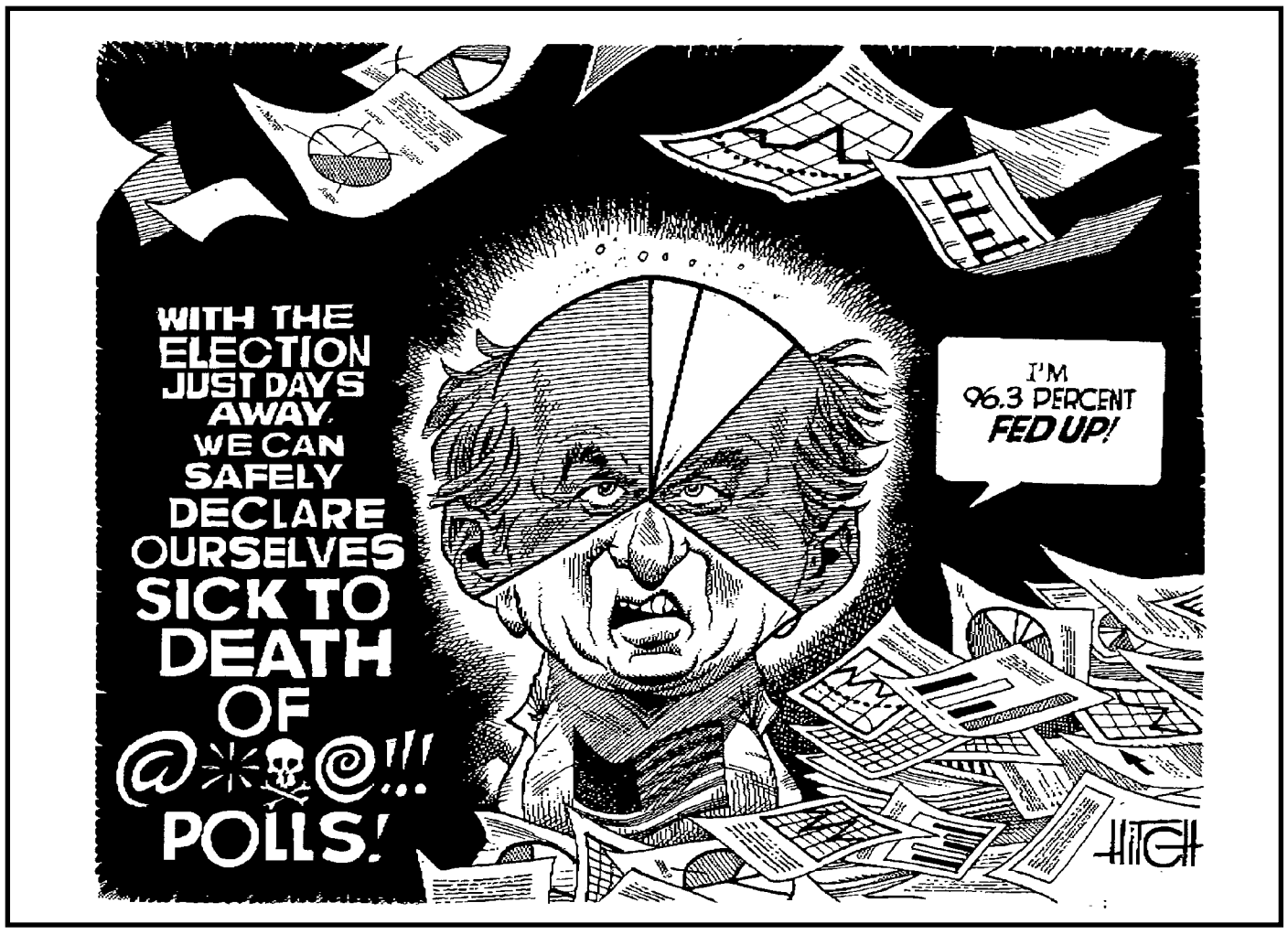


Can you, the US and the CNMI cooperate better?

By ANTHONY PELLEGRINO
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Pellegrino is a longtime businessman in the CNMI and is the former president of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce.

This is an open letter to the United States Congress and federal agencies. You, the United States, have been very generous and still are to us in the CNMI. Many of us are grateful for all the assistance you are giving us. However, as you have noticed, some of us are unhappy with your attitude. Also some of your recent actions have caused a splintering of our community. Some of the issues have pitted us against one another. Does it have to be this way?

The manners in which you, the U.S, and we, the CNMI, are handling current issues between us are certainly not building a bridge of cooperation and harmony. Slowly an air of resentment is building up in our community. And on your side, you are beginning to feel frustration and perhaps some anger. Isn't it time we explore some of the reasons why and realize that there are better ways to proceed? If we are to cooperate, we must fully understand each other's positions.

One of the main questions all of us ask: What is the U.S.'s real intention on the relationship between the U.S. and the CNMI? We don't want a superficial reply. We need a deep and sincere one. Help us understand your intentions so that we may better cooperate. But the way you are preceding, it seems you are building fences to shut us out.

Why do you insist on imposing federalization on us when you do not have your own agenda clearly ready? What is the hurry in disrupting our economy and labor force by imposing rules and regulations that you have not thoroughly thought out? These and more questions should be answered before you come in and strong-arm us. Truthfulness and sincerity in a discussion must prevail otherwise acrimonious feelings arise.

Instead of trying to win our hearts and minds, we feel that you insist on imposing your will at any cost with insufficient explanation to us as though we are your subordinates. I recall an incident at the Guam airport recently when my family and I were transferring from one airline to another heading back to Saipan. We were confused because the customs inspection system had changed. One inspector was rude and blurted out: "It is done this way since we have taken over your country (meaning Saipan)." I walked quickly away from him for fear I would strike him for his arrogance and insolence. How much cooperation will the U.S. get from its "colony" with that attitude?

We ask that you spend some time trying to understand who we are and our history. By reviewing our history you will understand that the CNMI islands have been under foreign rule almost since they were discovered. Remember the Spanish occupation, then the Germans, followed by the Japanese until finally you liberated us after the Second World War. Are we going back to another occupational status?

You extended your most precious gift—U.S. citizenship—without asking us to know and understand your political philosophy. For this we are grateful. But stop trying to buy our loyalty with money. We want heart also.

Since we are now a part of the United States, begin teaching us who you are and what you expect from us. Don't come barging in and start demanding. Friends don't do that to each other.

This is not a letter of complain but a plea for better understanding between our two countries. We need each other. And only with better understanding and more patience can there be a mutually harmonious relationship. There must not be a feeling of resentment or it will develop into hatred over time.

It is true that we have messed up at times and continue to do so even up to today. But that is all the more reason you must make an attempt to learn a bit more about us. For example, in our schools we study American history. We want to understand better the events leading up to the greatness of America and its promises of freedom and hope to the world.

On the other hand, how many of you who are assigned to work and enforce U.S. regulations on the CNMI has read the history of the Northern Marianas Islands or even the Covenant? Do you know that we also have a Constitution which we adhere to? Have you ever sang or heard our national anthem?

Have you ever been briefed on the long history of subjugation that our people have been subjected to? Do you understand that the bitterness and the hardships suffered by our people during and after the Second World War are still vivid in many of our memories? As a result we are reluctant to embrace new ideas presented by outsiders unless we are convinced of their merits.

We have been accused of squandering millions of dollars. We have been accused of immature political actions. But do you understand that we have never been taught about self-government? We used you as a role model. We have a Legislature composed of a Senate and a House of Representatives. We even have a governor who acts like a president.

At times your actions have not been too exemplary either. Those bad examples we picked up also. We need better guidance. In plain words, work closer with us and act less as a superior ruler. Would you act like that in the 50 States?

Why are you bothering us with the parole system at this time? Many of the non-resident workers cannot pay this exorbitant fee. They are not going home for pleasure but for medical treatment or

See CAN YOU on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Peak oil and the energy issue

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Vergara is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune*'s Opinion Section.*

"What's going to happen to us if fuel costs continue to increase? We have to start looking for ways to help our ailing economy," Mayor Donald Flores of Saipan said in a recent interview.

Chris Martenson, a respected consultant on energy, no longer feels we even have the luxury of wondering if cost will increase; he is clear after attending the recent Association for the Study of Peak Oil and Gas (ASPO) in Washington, D.C. this October, that only the military is seriously paying attention to the projection that Peak Oil – maximum production—might occur 2012 (players with less rosy assessments think traditional oil production peaked two years ago), and there is no plan B for the subsequent supply crunch on oil. Typical of stock exchange mechanisms, some will benefit from the fall!

"Peak Oil" is when maximum oil production equals maximum oil demand; consumption begins to exceed production, improvements on extractive technologies can no longer keep production at par with consumption, and consumers start dipping into reserves. While market supply decreases, the rise in demand intensifies. Industrializing India and China's thirst for oil remain unabated, and the industrialized countries reel from the global recession aided by the collapse of the housing market.

Peak Conventional Oil arrived a few years ago, Martenson (www.countercurrents.org) writes, and new fields, enhanced recovery techniques, and unconventional oil plays are barely going to keep up with demand over the next few years. His despair comes from the fact that the civilian governments of the US and Canada remain in denial over the reality of peak oil when Admiral Hyman Rickover of the U.S. Navy as early as 60 years ago projected this eventuality. With the two-year planning cycle in Washington, D.C.'s bureaucracy (an optimistic view), we are bereft of any contingency plans when the shift in the rate of supply and demand occurs around the Mayan year of doom.

A word about why we still have a glut of oil supply and how our seven sisters (a euphemism for the oil companies, with four of the original seven that muzzled Iran's Mossadegh becoming Supermajors, and the new seven outside of the Anglo-American consortium) remain viable investments with sinful returns in the last five years. Two words, actually. Saudi Arabia. The Arabian royalty just keeps increasing production to meet market demands and maintaining the market value of the commodity steady. How else can one of the most undemocratic governments in the planet retain the absolute political loyalty and military commitment of Uncle Sam? But not for long. There is but one Saudi Arabia; there ain't a second one to pick up the slack when supply no longer can meet competing demands.

That competition has already turned ugly. No less than career Army officer Andrew Bacevich, now University International Relations' professor, writes convincingly about our nation being in a state of perpetual war because of our addiction to oil. Our saber rattling, genial Obama and Clinton notwithstanding, has got Bacevich even suggesting that perhaps, the White House executive begin standing up to his generals.

But more destructively, our expenditure of more than 40 percent of the world's total armaments budget and military operational cost has undermined whatever strain of genuine patriotism remaining in the armed services when combatants begin to acknowledge the mercenary nature of our defense of countries valuable to us not by virtue of shared democratic ideals but because of the presence of liquid fossil fuels in their backyards!

Mayor Flores is acknowledging the need to shift into alternative energy sources after learning from the Pacific Island Energy Symposium at the Hyatt Regency not too long ago. That's the good news. The bad news is that it might be too late nor is it an easy thing to do. The fact is, fossil fuel is incredibly cheap by our current methods of costing. We had not included the cost its use has exacted on the environment.

Ben Ball of Houston, erstwhile MIT professor and retired Gulf Oil VP, characterizes that low price as comparing one gallon of gasoline by BTU content equivalent to four months worth of typical human labor. Animal power (beast-of-burden and human), supplemented by wind and water, got shifted into chemical energy during the industrial revolution, subsequently dropping the cost of energy

See PEAK OIL on Page 13

Maribahan Pottanmoneda (Fondu)

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

DelRosario is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune*'s Opinion Section.*

Man-offrese Depattamienton Interior para u fan ayuda gi ma-adelantan mampos chafleg na ekonomian Marianas. Este na planu siempre mañaunau todu patte guine gi tano'ta. Mauleg na inefrese yan tinituhon. Taya' kampu para finatane' piot 'nai mampus chafleg i ekonomiata pagu.

Dañkulu na obligasion i para ta hatsa tatte i maliñgu na fiñkas ni hagas lumiliku guine antes de hiniyoñg industrian magagu, Japan Airlines, Continental yan otru siha man-dañkulu na kompania. Mientras tantos, ekspekta na u mas menos rinikohen kontribusion tax guine. Este na karera kumeke ilegña na mas chafleg i pagamienton empleau siha. Libianu lokue ha afuetsas maribahan dañkulu na numeron empleau gi ti apmam yan pagu.

Estague' un' attikulu ni umestototba manadan patriatka yan matriatkan familia guine. Yangin pagu mampos silensiu haanen miyu, muñga man-hinalañg umaligau koyentura siha 'nai siña in' adelanta haanen familian miyu. Esta na' fontun lau ti u fondu hit enteramente. Tafan apipet sa' huñgan sumen makat i tiempu pagu.

■■■

Megai fumafaisen-yu hafa na taiguine pinadesisita pagu. Ti mapot i kuestion ma-oppe: Diskuiduta afañielos i masusesede pagu. 'Nai ha kaikaigue' i Japan Airlines, Continental, industrian magagu yan otru man-dañkulu na bisnis siha tita mueba hit para ta aligau katsu.

I hiniyoñg este siha na kompania ha chule' hanau poku 'mas o'menos $900 miyon pesus ni hagas lumiliku' guine. Tinatiye este 'nai mas ke nuebe na propositon bisnis kumansela planon niha. Kase gaige i maplanea na balin plano gi $1.5 bihon pesus yan kantidan chochu. I chinatsaga siha gi papa' Attikulu Dose chumoma' hinalom este siha na bisnis.

Dispues de ennau, puru hit sakudidan man-na'tata na politika na esta ta hasñgon umupus i kabales na man-sustansiau siha na asuntun linahyan. Ha diskuida siha i man-ma'gasta. Ni siha pagu mismu man-poduñg kiadas niha ya tutuhu' te'la niha sinparat sa' ti matuñgu hafa para umachogue. Lastima!

■■■

Este na diskuidu ha palalae' i tautau siha gi señgsoñg sin ditension. Lastima i tiempu yan appottunidat sa' ya mohon hagas mansatton hit gi priniponen sanu na planu siha para i tautauta ti ta padedese i pumalolopu' hit pagu. Pot este na maseha haye na offisiat publiku un' lie' pagu, kulan mohon man-maderis titanos niha.

■■■

Unu na propositu ni siempre u gaige gi balotu i para umasede gobietnamentu umayau mas ke $200 million pesus para u apase i dibiña gi programan man-ritirau. Buente mauleg ha' este na ginagau yangin enfin machuchuda' kahan publiku rinikohen kontribusion tax. Lau mampos poduñg rinikohen kontribusion.

Pot ihemplu, ensegidas de ma-apprueba i pottanmonedan (budget) pagu na sakan, guaha annunsiu malagnos na i $132 miyon pesus esta tumunog gi $122 miyon. Klaru na indikasion na sige ha' maribaha i pottanmonedan gobietnu. Mas gaddon i inapasen dibin gobietnu siha. Hombre i pagamientu esta mina' siñku biahe ni maditeni sa' tinahoñg fondu gi kahan Marianas.

Ni dibin $8.5 miyon pesus ti siña ma-apase lau deste siñku años malofan ma-otdin ni kotte na debi uma-apase este na kuenta. Atan kabales i asuntu sa makat na biahe tafafana'. Dinancheña yangin ta punu este na ginagau estake gai fondu i gobietnamentota.

CAN YOU

From Page 10

tragedies in their families. Please understand this and show compassion to them. These and other issues should be mutually hammered out.

I am not suggesting that your policy is wrong. It is the manner in which you insist on trying to shove it down our throats. Please spend a bit more time among us and get to know us better. We have different viewpoints from yours. These need to be better understood. If our relationship is expected to last a long time let's get to know each other better. Please remember: It's not so much what you say, but how you say it that causes different reactions.

I don't wish to belabor this point, but unless we begin to better understand each other, major problems will develop. Many of the older people who recall the former occupation of our lands and we, their children, wish to be better Americans. But you must guide us, not bully us and chide us.

Speaking frankly, you are not being generous to the CNMI because you to like us better than the other near-by Pacific Islands. You are being generous because you need us for your defense needs. It is a partnership. Be frank and open. It will cement better and longer relationships.

And finally, to my people. We must also strive to understand the United States better. They have their own problems. Let us open our homes and hearts to them. Let us show them that we are a gracious and loving people. If it becomes necessary however, let us demand respect.

The next few years of adjustment are going to be difficult. The U.S. has its own culture and agenda, and we too have our own. The problem is how to blend them so that we both benefit. The end result must be a win-win situation. There can be no loser.

In closing, please take the comments above as a concern for establishing better relationships. Help us to become hard working citizens able to earn a decent living. This is more important that just doling out money with little positive results. Explain over and over what your intentions are. Help us to understand your needs as you understand ours. Let us join hands and walk as a partner. We need each other. Closer communication with candid frankness will cement our relationship. I look forward to this and hope that you too agree.

Letter to the Editor

Voters, beware!

One of the initiatives listed on the ballot—at least as it appears on the "sample" ballots put out by the Commonwealth Election Commission—is missing critical information, making it difficult to recognize.

House Legislative Initiative 16-13 appears on the sample ballot as ""Do you approve of House Legislative Initiative 16-13 to amend Article III, Section 20 of the Constitution of the Northern Mariana Islands? Yes or No."

There is no clue, on the ballot, as to what H.L.I. 16-13 would do.

For the other two initiatives on the ballot, the question contains information as to the nature of the change being proposed. H.L. I. 16-18 appears on the ballot as "Do you approve of House Legislative Initiative 16-18 to amend Article XI, Section 5(g) of the NMI Constitution to authorize the Department of Public Land to use up to twenty percent of its revenue to pay and satisfy land compensation claims, and for other purposes? Yes or No."

H.L.I. 17-1 appears on the ballot as "Do you approve of House Legislative Initiative 17-1 to add a new Section 10 to Article X of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to authorize the Commonwealth to issue pension obligation bonds and for other purposes? Yes or No."

Ironically, H.L. I. 16-13 is not only the least controversial of the three amendments being proposed, but also the most prudent and least costly. It would restrict the Legislature from increasing benefits to retirees until all monies owed to the Retirement Fund have been paid, or the Fund is fully funded.

But that information is not provided on the ballot itself. One can only wonder at the omission.

Voters should not let the lack of information keep them from voting on this initiative. At least the correct part of the Constitution is identified in the question. It IS Article III, Section 20, that deals with the Retirement System, and H.L.I. 16-13 would add a new section "c" that reads," "The Legislature shall not increase benefits until all government obligations to the retirement system have been satisfied or the system is fully funded. Provided further that no law shall be enacted by the Legislature that will create an unfunded liability to the retirement system."

Ruth L. Tighe
Tanapag

The Weather

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds around 10 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds around 10 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°

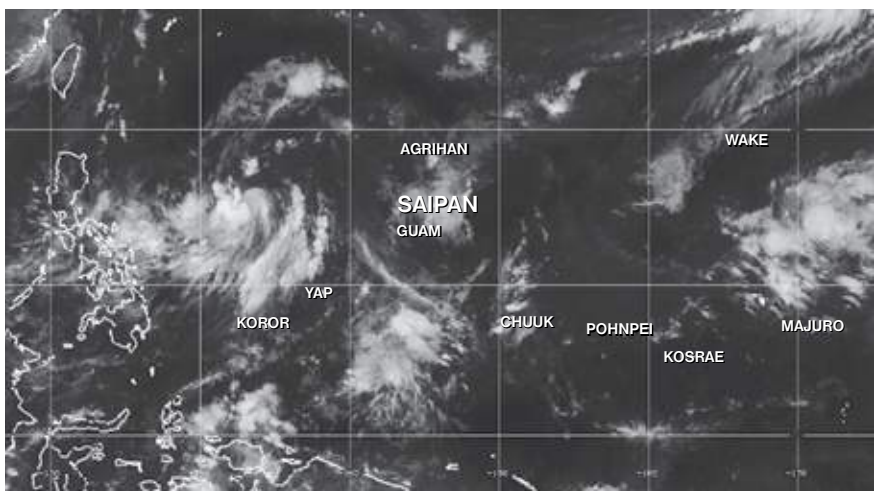
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲86	▼79
Palau	Showers	▲86	▼78
Yap	Rain	▲86	▼77
Chuuk	Partly Sunny	▲84	▼77
Pohnpei	Showers	▲88	▼73
Kosrae	Mostly Sunny	▲89	▼75
Majuro	Partly Cloudy	▲86	▼76

Around The Globe

Auckland	Partly Cloudy	▲64	▼54
Beijing	Sunny	▲55	▼36
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	▲83	▼65
Honolulu	Sunny	▲85	▼74
London	Sunny	▲47	▼37
Los Angeles	Mostly Cloudy	▲67	▼58
Manila	Thundershowers	▲86	▼75
Melbourne	Sunny	▲68	▼43
Miami	Partly Cloudy	▲84	▼74
New York	Cloudy	▲68	▼55
Osaka	Thundershowers	▲78	▼60
Paris	Showers	▲51	▼36
Pusan	Showers	▲70	▼48
Rome	Rain	▲70	▼53
Salem	Rain	▲55	▼46
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲61	▼53
Seoul	Sunny	▲53	▼40
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	▲65	▼56
Washington, DC	Showers	▲75	▼63

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, SUNDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2010
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Tropical Depression 16W is centered well west of the Marianas near 17N133E. TD16W is moving west-northwestward at 10 mph with maximum sustained winds of 30 mph. Scattered to numerous showers and isolated thunderstorms are found between 17N and 10N from 130E to 139E. Converging winds south of 16W are generating scattered showers and a few thunderstorms south of Yap within 150 miles of a line from EQ133E to 5N138E to 7N146E. For additional information, refer to National Weather Service public advisories issued under WMO header WTPQ32 PGUM and JTWC bulletins issued under WMO header WTPN32 PGTW. Tropical Depression 17W continues to weaken and is centered just southeast of Minami Tori Shima at 23N155E. TD17W is moving northeastward at 5 mph with maximum sustained winds of 30 mph. Scattered light showers are occurring within 75 miles of the center of TD17E. For further information, refer to National Weather Service public advisories issued under WMO header WTPQ33 PGUM and JTWC bulletins issued under WMO header WTPN33 PGTW. A surface trough stretches northeastward from 4N153E to 13N158E. Scattered showers located near chuuk within an area bounded by a line from 4N147E to 10N151E to 10N156E to 4N155E back to 4N147E. Trade-wind convergence is producing scattered to widely scattered showers north of Majuro between 15N and 7N from 168E to 176E and also north of Kosrae within 60 miles of a line from 7N161E to 12N166E.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

2:43 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.2 Feet
9:33 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
3:06 PM	Today	Low Tide:	1.1 Feet
8:03 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:11 AM	5:51 PM
Tuesday	6:11 AM	5:51 PM
Wednesday	6:11 AM	5:50 PM
Thursday	6:12 AM	5:50 PM
Friday	6:12 AM	5:49 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	7:20 PM	7:46 AM
Tuesday	8:12 PM	8:41 AM
Wednesday	9:07 PM	9:37 AM
Thursday	10:05 PM	10:31 AM
Friday	11:04 PM	11:24 AM

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCTOBER 13, 2010

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM

CO9317	4:25am	5:15am	Daily
CO9313	7:55am	8:45am	3, 6
CO9313	8:30am	9:20am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
CO9601	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
CO9603	3:05pm	3:55pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
CO9605	6:20pm	7:10pm	Daily
CO9599	9:30pm	10:20pm	Daily

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL287	6:00am	8:35am	Daily
DL285	6:40am	9:15am	Daily
DL297	4:35pm	7:15pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 5

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ604	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ604	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ606	3:30pm	7:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

FM844	2:50am	5:40am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ604/701	2:20am	11:25am	1 via ICN
CO9316/893	2:45am	9:00am	3, 6 via GUM-Palau
OZ604/701	2:50am	11:25am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
DL287/173	6:00am	10:55pm	Daily via NRT
CO9603/933	3:05pm	8:40pm	Daily via GUM
CO9599/PR111	9:30pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG

OZ604/721	2:20am	11:45am	1 via ICN
OZ604/721	2:50am	11:45am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
CO9603/909	3:05pm	9:25pm	1, 5 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM-SAIPAN

CO9316	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
CO9596	6:35am	7:25am	3, 6
CO9596	7:00am	7:50am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
CO9600	10:05am	10:55am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
CO9602	1:40pm	2:30pm	1, 4, 5, 7
CO9604	5:00pm	5:50pm	Daily
CO9606	8:00pm	8:50pm	Daily

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:25am	3:05pm	Daily
DL286	3:50pm	8:25pm	Daily
DL288	8:40pm	1:15am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:00pm	2:20am+1	4, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

OZ605	9:00am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7
OZ603	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ603	8:10pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

FM843	7:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

OZ704/605	12:10am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
DL172/173	7:50am	1:10am+1	Daily via NRT
OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
CO892/9316	4:15pm	3:35am+1	3, 6 via GUM-Palau
PR110/CO596	10:00pm	7:25am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
CO934/9596	10:55pm	7:50am+1	Daily via GUM

HONG KONG-SAIPAN

OZ724/605	12:30am	2:30pm	2 ,4 ,6, 7 via ICN
OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
CO910/9596	10:30pm	7:50am+1	1, 5 via GUM

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

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The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

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  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

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SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Saturday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of $160. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

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FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam–Rota			
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily
Rota–Saipan			
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily
Guam–Rota			
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily
Rota–Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily
Rota–Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily
Rota–Guam			
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily
Saipan–Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily
FRE 113	11:40	11:50	Daily
FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Tinian–Saipan			
FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

Letters to the Editor

How and why should I vote

Voting is the privilege and responsibility of every citizen. The big question is how you should vote. Every since you have the right to vote you have voted either the party line or the family line. I do not know if it is because it's the easy way or if you just do not know any better. The proper way to vote is to study the candidates. What dose he or she stand for? Do they keep their word? Do they work for the good of all the people or just for special interest groups? Maybe the best question is would you lend him money and if you did would you ever get it back?

This November election is too important for people to go with the old way of voting. Ask yourself how do you want the federal govt. to look at us. Which candidate will work best with the U.S. Congress? Remember that first impressions mean a lot when dealing with people. Please lets get it right this time. The island is in too much trouble for us to do things the old way. Before you vote ask yourselves are you happy with the way things are going. Do you like taking pay cuts so that the governor can hire everyone that he promised a job for their vote? Do you like seeing the governor signing sole-source contracts with a company that does not even exist till three days latter? What was the hurry?

What am I trying to say is vote with your head. Use the intelligence that God gave us all.

Vote for the man that has been there and proven that he can get the job done. In spite of all the interference from our sole-source governor.

Frederick Prosser
As Matuis

A teacher's vote for the one!

Teachers and educators in general are rated at the top of the list when it comes to being the smartest voters. Teachers are more likely to look at the pure facts about a candidate's qualifications and abilities for their decision with less regard for minor character flaws, which we all have, and the gossip over the coconut wire. Teachers and educators by their very nature have virtue and approach the analysis of a candidate very much the same way they grade their students. Teachers have to weigh student's academic achievements only without being influenced by the behavior or acts of a student, which can be challenging for any human being especially when the student has been giving the teacher pure hell. Teachers are the best at determining the best student in a class of candidates, which is why candidates on the mainland seek the support of the teacher unions first and foremost for credibility with other voters.

The challenge for voters is to grade the candidates in the same perspective as a teacher, because to do otherwise will be an injection of personal biasness resulting from a personal encounter or even gossip. The welfare of the CNMI is too important for anyone to use their vote for personal reasons. In the classroom teachers have to maintain their virtue and professionalism when grading students which is the same thing that voters must practice if they want to get it right for the sake of the entire CNMI—we call it civic virtue when a citizen can put the community above and beyond their personal biasness or preferences, especially when voting.

As a teacher I can attest to the fact that most educators and voters in the CNMI are truly tired of candidates using education just to get elected. While all the candidates are promoting their commitment to education it is clearly in the public records as to who the true champion of education is in the delegate race. It is also obvious PSS is not getting the help it really needs when PSS' local budget has continued to decline for the past decade as the population has grown. PSS needs more "local funding" because they are doing a great job working with the feds to maximize on federal grant opportunities but federal money can't be used for local requirements like salaries for teachers, new schools, textbooks and etc. There is very little that can be done in Washington about a local funding issue, which is why our economy should be at the top of our next delegate's list and not education, especially when Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands got $500 million each to specifically help rebuild their economy and infrastructure. I'm sure the average voter with common sense can see the problem and I hope this will help us all fix it on voting day.

Educators are some of the smartest voters and I have a good feeling they won't be fooled by the politics of education in the delegate race, especially voters who know the history of our entire education system. There is only one candidate that has played a major role in our education system since its development. He is also responsible for PSS' autonomous status, which keep PSS from being shut down recently with the government and he gave the first computers to students which started this education reform. The funny part for me as a teacher is I don't even have to say his name because like in class I'm sure the majority of voters, like students, already know who the true champion of our education system is in the delegate race.

It is relatively easy for a teacher to determine who the top student is in a class and it is the same for voters to determine the best in this class of candidates but unlike teachers, voters inject their personal baggage in their decision to vote. Too often in the CNMI's recent history the personal baggage of voters has outweighed the pure facts, which is how we the people voted ourselves into this mess. This election should really be a landslide for the best candidate but the poor voting practices of the past may be a hard habit to break for some but I pray this will help.

We the people must start now, with the delegate race, to begin voting ourselves out of this mess by being informed voters with the best interest of the Commonwealth at heart to elect the best candidate with the best qualifications and the best chances to influence the U.S. Congress in the CNMI's favor. Keep this in mind because there is only one candidate with the necessary broad base of experience and wisdom that comes with decades of public service that we need in a congressman (Executive experience as governor, health care experience as director of Public Health, Legislative experience as senator, education as chair of Board of Education and chair of Board of Regents, public safety and economic experience as governor)—undisputed facts. But there is more, only one candidate has the official support of an entire party in Congress and it's a fact because no other candidate has offered any official proof of national party support to voters and I'm sure they would if they truly had national support. There is also only one candidate with an established record of respect in Washington, working productively and collectively with all parts of the federal government. Most of the voters already know who this one candidate is which is why I have always viewed this as one of the easiest races to determine the BEST candidate.

Just like teachers can easily tell who is the top student, the fact that I don't even have to mention the name of the best candidate yet most readers know who I'm talking about is proof as to who is really the best candidate for Washington. But voters can also be like students who sit in the back of class and know the answer to a question in class but too afraid to speak out or just don't want to participate in class. But voters need to participate now more than ever before and you don't have to be afraid in the voting booth - so please vote for the CNMI this time not yourself. The top student among the candidates is so easy to determine if voters will grade them like a teacher.

I could go on and on about the issues that clearly identifies who the top student is in this class of candidates for Congress and I think most voters already know. But do your homework and find out who the one candidate is if you don't know. Voters must put their personal baggage aside and make their decisions very much like a teacher, impartially based on qualifications and experience for the best candidate with the best chances to be a winner for the CNMI in Congress. We must start now with the delegate race to move in a new direction to find real prosperity—biba for the one and our great Commonwealth!

Ambrose M. Bennett
Former BOE teacher representative

Unintended consequences?

November is approaching. CNMI federalization took place approximately about one year. Pro or against dederalization rival camps vigorous debate shows signs of abating but squabbles are far from ending.

CNMI current issues get ever grimmer. More people competing for jobs are contributing high unemployment, painful paychecks cut. Focus on strategy to maximizing the economy boost is right thing for the government to do at hard times.

Modest as it sound, but to tackle it will be difficult. Politicians suit their styles and temperament, have their own idea what the government's priorities should be.

From some people points of view, "CNMI federalization " in the court of public opinions may vary, but in the court of law, ruling has already been issued.

However, politicians think differently, with perceptible approach, carry on business of opposition is to oppose. Umbrella permit, registration requirements, all these inventive strategies buy some time for maneuvering. While it also opens mind to many that government policy not only to abide but can choose as well.

As it anticipated, heavy lifting balance relationship between federal and local government leaves CNMI business community and guest workers no choice.

To register or not to register, that is a question. They struggle and feel being pushed around. Anxiety suggests patience is running out!

On the other hand, government seems reluctant to divulge the details at once. When vague policy is revealing a little bit, CNMI community members grasp it with their own interpretation. Particularly for the CNMI Chinese community that language barrier of misunderstanding often occurs. Reading English without fully comprehending it or assume to fully comprehend it and then pass information among friends. Desperate people urge for solution, irrationally support or in favor of policies for their own sake.

Chinese tourists accompanied by their friends went to CNMI labor department for registration and believed they obtained one year valid residence by received ID card without processing fee involve. Rumors spread, tourists can stay.

According to CNMI government documents, alien registration is quote: The purpose of registration is simply to account for all aliens who are currently in Commonwealth and have been in the Commonwealth for a consecutive 90 days or longer. Registration is not related to status. "Persons who may be out-of-status may register so that if benefits become available for which they are eligible, they will be on record."

What is the government suggestion? Does government suggest out-of-status aliens register? Does government encourage out-of-status tourists register as well? Does government realize that registration requirement send wrong signal that tourists can stay? Does government suggest that registers might eligible for some benefits? Why would government woefully short of its own revenue but same time ignore the operational costs?

Permanently include economically beneficial countries in the Guam-CNMI Visa Waiver Program portends a dismal failure.

Some members of CNMI Chinese community raise concern about government capable of compromising tourism business for their own political agenda.

If acknowledged, the unintended consequences of policies jeopardize CNMI tourism and community suggests government take action to fix it before it is too late.

Betty Bai
Publisher, Saipan Chinese News

Municipal Council forgot to honor 2010 CNMI-Asia Pacific champion team

The Saipan Municipal Council honored Micro Games athletes but failed to recognized the 2010 CNMI All-Stars that won the Asia Pacific Baseball Tournament in Indonesia. These types of error should not be forgotten since this is the first step in the stairs of sport success in any child's future of sports. I must say that given the recognition of this team is the only motivation they need to succeed in the sport career. I applaud and congratulate the parents, supporters, and volunteers who helped encourage the all-star team and may you continue to support our CNMI baseball athletes for future success beyond greatness of sports career.

To Lt. Gov. Eloy Inos, thank you for your warm welcome of the team upon their return, we look forward for your continued support next year.

Baseball has been the No. 1 activity that keeps a child from becoming delinquently involved in crime and away from drugs.

Christine Cruz
Kagman

PEAK OIL

From Page 11

several orders of magnitude. Nuclear is presently the "cheapest" but we fear our human limitations to totally harness its power; it does not allow for any margin of error. Coal and other fossil fuel, on the other hand, had just been there for the taking (we forcibly took more than others), but we failed to assess its real cost not only to the environment, but also in political, economic, and cultural affairs. The cumulative damage "cheap" energy has exacted on the planet in the last 250 years is incalculable.

The real cost is coming to roost. Nothing short of the reversal of the industrial revolution is what it will take for the human specie to survive. And that will not come easy. We can begin by realizing the devastating real cost of "cheap" energy by uttering a collective "oops" across the planet. Perhaps, Mayor Flores' sort of "oops" is a good beginning.

Business

IN LINE WITH MILITARY BUILDUP IN MARIANAS

'Businesses must prepare for contracting opportunities'

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
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REPORTER

The impending military buildup in the Marianas will bring business opportunities for local investors but not all of them can do direct business with the U.S. military, according to the president and chairman of the Tinian Chamber of Commerce.

"There are certain steps and requirements that you have to go through prior to submitting a bid or being a part of U.S. military procurement," said Phillip Mendiola-Long, who is also president and managing director of Sherman Consulting.

Mendiola-Long, who also serves as council member for the U.S. Department of Commerce Hawaii Pacific Export Council, said the CNMI business community must prepare for these contracting opportunities that will be available in line with the military buildup.

The buildup involves the relocation of some 8,600 Marines and their 9,000 dependents from Okinawa to Guam, including the construction of facilities and infrastructure to support training and operations on Guam and Tinian for the relocated Marines.

Since Guam cannot accommodate all training for the relocating Marines, the military looks at Tinian to provide opportunities for training groups of 200 Marines or larger due to greater land availability by developing four live-fire training ranges on the island.

In preparation for the military buildup in the Marianas, Mendiola-Long said the Tinian Chamber of Commerce is hosting the U.S. Military Contracting Small Business Outreach Forum on Oct. 27 at the Tinian Dynasty Hotel from 8am to 4:30pm.

Forum registration is $45 with lunch and $25 without lunch. All funds collected will go to the Tinian Chamber of Commerce to cover expenses for hosting the event.

Mendiola-Long said the whole day forum is a great opportunity for local investors to learn more about the prospects of doing business with the federal government and get technical assistance in preparation for these business opportunities.

Forum set up

Mendiola-Long told *Saipan Tribune* that they set up the forum in three steps to facilitate presentations and discussions and invited speakers vital to the preparation for and the actual military buildup.

He said the first step is a program overview of what business opportunities the CNMI can look out for in particular.

Mendiola-Long

Rear Admiral Paul Bushong, Commander for U.S. Naval Forces Marianas, will talk about the importance of CNMI to the military. Joint Guam Program Office Forward Director John Jackson will discuss the Record of Decision for the Guam/Marianas Military Relocation.

Office of Economic Adjustment project manager Richard Solander under the Secretary of Defense Office will talk about how the military and civilian community can collaborate to ensure success in its partnership. Commanding Officer Peter S. Lynch of the Naval Facilities Engineering Command will give an update on the type of contracts that are coming out of Guam and the CNMI.

The second phase is the technical aspect of the forum. Vera Topasna, program manager for Guam Procurement Technical Assistance Center, will talk about the basics of contracting with the U.S. government. Casey Jeszenka, network director for Pacific Islands Small Business Development Center, will discuss how SBDC can serve as a resource and provide technical assistance for small businesses. Albert Sampson, small business advisor for NAVFAC Marianas, will talk about refining what businesses can do to adapt to available opportunities related to the buildup.

The third phase will ascertain specific, identifiable opportunities that come with the buildup. Guam Veterans Business Outreach Center director Frank Crisostomo-Kaaihue will identify particular contracts that are part of the Central Contracting Registry for small business owners. Christopher Dunsmore of the Defense Logistics Agency will discuss opportunities to sell goods and services to preposition ships and aircrafts.

The forum will conclude with a presentation from Special Agent Maria Markley of the Naval Criminal Investigative Service about their role in preventing procurement fraud to protect the Navy as well as the law-abiding contractors.

There will be a panel discussion or Q&A portion at the end of each phase to encourage audience participation.

Airfare deal

Mendiola-Long said the Tinian Chamber of Commerce has worked out a deal with Star Marianas for Saipan residents who plan on attending the forum.

He said forum attendees from Saipan only have to pay $40 per person for the airfare when they fly with Star Marianas.

However, Mendiola-Long said attendees need to take any of the Star Marianas flights going to Tinian between 6am to 10am.

Attendees can fly back to Saipan by taking the flight between 5pm to 7pm on the same day.

Mendiola-Long said they can individuals who cannot make it to the Star Marianas flights can fly with Freedom Air at $69 per person.

'Informative conference'

The president of the Tinian Chamber urged all business owners big and small to attend 'the single best informative conference in the CNMI this year' because of the millions of federal and Japanese money that will be infused to the local economy.

According to Mendiola-Long, some $26 billion worth of businesses are expected to come in based on the last estimate for the military buildup.

He said all kinds of businesses—from heavy manufacturing and providing transportation to supplying water and food and providing trash collection services—are among the unlimited amount of opportunities available for local investors. "It's for everyone," he added.

Mendiola-Long disclosed that some of the big military contractors from the U.S. mainland have already taken interest on the military buildup going on in the Marianas.

"If our business community does not take advantage of it, you can guarantee that someone else will," he warned.

Mendiola-Long added that the NAFPAC "have special procurement abilities where they are required by federal law to give out contracts to woman-owned, veteran-owned, and minority-owned businesses.

"What this conference is doing is making sure that all of our people have the knowledge and basic information to get started and prepare their company to take advantage of this money coming in," he said.

With the CNMI's current economic state, Mendiola-Long said the forum is a chance to capitalize on the unlimited business opportunities that the military buildup will bring.

"If Saipan businesses want to see the light at the end of the tunnel, this is it. They got to follow the light. They got to look at the opportunities here and make the best of what they can," he said.

Mendiola-Long extends his appreciation to all forum sponsors. Platinum sponsors are Tan Holdings and IT&E. Gold sponsors include Sherman Consulting, Tinian Mayor's Office, and Pernix Group. Silver sponsors are FPA Corp., Kiewit-Mortenson, and Knight/McDonough A&E JV.

For online registration, visit www.TinianChamber.com and click on the NAVFAC Small Business Outreach Forum link.

For more information, contact Phillip Mendiola-Long at 433-CNMI (2664).

Group of 20 vows to avoid currency devaluations

GYEONGJU, South Korea (AP)—Global finance leaders, under pressure to display unselfish policies, agreed Saturday to boost cooperation on rebalancing the world economy to help defuse tensions that had sparked fears of trade conflicts.

The Group of 20 vowed to avoid potentially debilitating currency devaluations and reduce trade and current account imbalances, amid a growing recognition that restructuring the world economy is necessary to accommodate the greater role played by fast-growing China and other developing economies.

G-20 finance ministers and central bank governors met for two days in the South Korean city of Gyeongju ahead of a summit of their leaders in Seoul next month. Just two weeks ago, a G-20 meeting in Washington failed to resolve differences that had stoked worries a possible trade war could trigger another economic downturn.

Nations in Asia and other regions have been trying to stem strength in their currencies amid sustained weakness in the U.S. dollar out of fear their exports will become less competitive. At the same time, China's currency, the yuan, has been effectively pegged to the greenback, provoking criticism it is being kept artificially low and giving the country's exporters an unfair advantage.

Geithner

Asia relying less on exports for growth is seen as one of the adjustments that nations should make to ensure more stability in the global economy and markets. Stronger currencies, meanwhile, would make imported goods cheaper and boost local spending as a contributor to economic growth.

The G-20, which accounts for about 85 percent of the global economy, said in a statement that it will "move towards more market determined exchange rate systems" and "refrain from competitive devaluation of currencies." It also vowed to cooperate on reducing "excessive imbalances."

"I think it's fair to say for the first time we see the major economies come together and recognize that excess imbalances that persist over a period of time, that can threaten growth and financial stability, need to bring about adjustments in policies," U.S. Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner told reporters after the meeting.

The G-20 includes both rich countries such as the U.S., Japan and Germany as well as emerging ones like China, India and Brazil. It assumed the role of global economic leader following the 2008 financial crisis.

Obama: Consumers lose if financial law repealed

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Barack Obama says consumers would lose if Republicans regain power in Congress and try to roll back his hard-won Wall Street overhaul.

He says the GOP's promised repeal of the law would mean the return of a financial system whose near-collapse led to the worst recession since the Depression.

"Without sound oversight and commonsense protections for consumers, the whole economy is put in jeopardy," Obama said Saturday in his weekly radio and Internet address. "That doesn't serve Main Street. That doesn't serve Wall Street. That doesn't serve anyone."

The law passed despite nearly unanimous Republican opposition. It sought to rein in a financial system that had sped ahead of outdated rules, allowing banks, traders and others to take increased risks.

Separate legislation tackled bank overdraft fees and abuses such as retroactive interest rate increases on credit card balances.

The financial overhaul law came in the wake of a $700 billion bank rescue passed in the final months of George W. Bush's presidency. While the bailout is credited with providing stability, it's deeply unpopular with voters angry of taxpayer money being used to help prop up huge banks.

Obama promised that the measure ensures that taxpayers will "never again be on the hook for a bailout."

Obama's address came less than two weeks before elections in which Republicans have a good chance of taking over the House, if not the Senate. The financial regulation measure hasn't been a central campaign issue.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Lawsuit seeks to revive deepwater drilling ban

WASHINGTON (AP)—An environmental group wants a federal judge to put a freeze on deepwater oil drilling back in place. The Center for Biological Diversity's lawsuit against Interior Secretary Ken Salazar asks a judge in Washington to reinstate the drilling freeze. It was imposed after the April 20 Deepwater Horizon rig explosion spewed hundreds of millions of gallons into the Gulf of Mexico. The Arizona-based group says the ban should go back into place until the Interior Department completes a comprehensive analysis of drilling risk to the environment and wildlife. The freeze lasted for six months before Salazar lifted it on Oct. 12. He said new rules had made drilling safer and reduced the risk of another catastrophic blowout.

Tribune Co. CEO resigns, new bankruptcy plan filed

WILMINGTON, Del. (AP)—Tribune Co. CEO Randy Michaels resigned Friday amid tales of raunchy behavior as the company looked to shift attention back to its efforts to emerge from bankruptcy protection. Hours later, the company filed its latest reorganization plan in court. Michaels' departure comes at a pivotal time for the troubled media company. After nearly two years operating under bankruptcy protection, Tribune Co. is drawing up a reorganization plan that it hopes a federal judge will approve before the end of the year. Michaels, 58, joined Tribune Co. three years ago following an ill-fated $8.2 billion buyout engineered by real estate mogul Sam Zell in 2007. Michaels became Tribune Co.'s CEO late last year. Michaels, a former radio disc jockey, won Zell's trust as CEO of a radio broadcast company that Zell owned, Jacor Communications.

Nation

Tightening Senate races give pause to upbeat GOP

BLUE BELL, Pa. (AP)—To understand Republicans' nagging fear that the Nov. 2 elections might not be quite the massive triumph that many have predicted, check out Pennsylvania's perplexing Senate race.

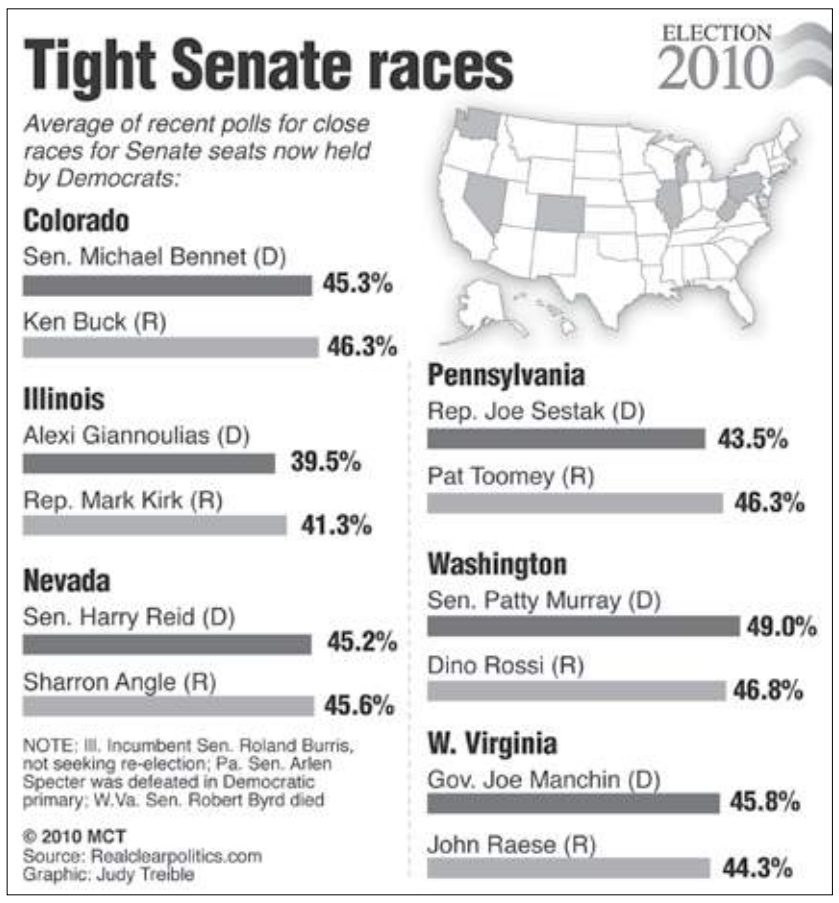
Democratic Rep. Joe Sestak has trailed Republican Pat Toomey for months, and a GOP victory always has seemed likely, given that it's a Republican-trending year in this perpetually contested state. Yet recent polls suggest Sestak has closed the gap, and Republican leaders are imploring supporters not to panic even as they ask themselves: What's going on?

The Sestak-Toomey race mirrors other Senate contests that are making this one of the most intriguing and unpredictable midterm elections in years.

Just as in Nevada, Colorado, Kentucky, and perhaps Alaska and Connecticut, each candidate is an accomplished but imperfect politician, and the tea party movement is playing a big but uncertain role.

In most of those states, plus Washington and California, Senate races are tightening to nail-biting margins. That means Republicans might pick up a few seats or as many as 10, which would give them the majority. Democrats privately concede they may be unable to keep their House majority, but losing the Senate would be devastating.

President Barack Obama's travels now focus largely on trying to save Democratic senators in Washington, California, Nevada and Wisconsin, a clear sign that his party is still playing defense.


Tight Senate races
ELECTION 2010
Average of recent polls for close races for Senate seats now held by Democrats:
Colorado
Sen. Michael Bennet (D) 45.3%
Ken Buck (R) 46.3%
Illinois
Alexi Giannoulias (D) 39.5%
Rep. Mark Kirk (R) 41.3%
Nevada
Sen. Harry Reid (D) 45.2%
Sharron Angle (R) 45.6%
NOTE: Ill. Incumbent Sen. Roland Burris, not seeking re-election; Pa. Sen. Arlen Specter was defeated in Democratic primary; W.Va. Sen. Robert Byrd died
© 2010 MCT
Source: Realclearpolitics.com
Graphic: Judy Treible
Pennsylvania
Rep. Joe Sestak (D) 43.5%
Pat Toomey (R) 46.3%
Washington
Sen. Patty Murray (D) 49.0%
Dino Rossi (R) 46.8%
W. Virginia
Gov. Joe Manchin (D) 45.8%
John Raese (R) 44.3%

While California and Washington see Senate GOP challengers creeping up on Democratic incumbents, it's embattled Democrats who seem to be rising elsewhere. They have seized on a common claim: A dangerous fringe movement, the tea party, has taken over the Republican Party.

Unlike the Republican nominees in Colorado and Nevada, Pennsylvania's Toomey fits more comfortably in the GOP's business-friendly, low-tax tradition than in the hot-blooded, anti-establishment tea party model. Still, he has accepted tea party champion Sarah Palin's endorsement.

Sestak is using that fact—plus, curiously, the notoriety of tea partier Christine O'Donnell, the GOP Senate nominee in neighboring Delaware—to paint Toomey as a pilot of a new and scary Republican Party veering dangerously to the fringe.

In speeches and ads, Sestak ties Toomey to O'Donnell, the headline-grabbing upstart who trails by double digits in Delaware polls. In a debate Wednesday, Sestak said he worries about "those extreme candidates" who take advantage of "the extreme fringe of the tea party. There are those that are running with Congressman Toomey. Miss O'Donnell next door, for example."

While many analysts have predicted a tightening of Senate races, the strategy might be working. If that perception spreads, it will embolden Democrats making similar claims against tea party Republicans in Nevada, Colorado and elsewhere.

It might even give hope to Democratic Senate nominee Jack Conway in Kentucky, where Republican Rand Paul has not quite sealed a victory.

In Alaska's complex race, Sen. Lisa Murkowski is slapping the too-extreme label on Joe Miller, the tea party favorite who denied her the Republican nomination. Murkowski is trying a write-in campaign, while the Democratic nominee, Scott McAdams, seems to be running third.

Some analysts see two other factors helping Sestak, and perhaps Democrats elsewhere:

■ Democrats are thought to have a superior get-out-the-vote operation here and in other states, and the latest polls might be reflecting the heavy contact of voters by phone and door-knocking.

■ Obama and others have said Democratic voters will "wake up" when they realize what's at stake, and some analysts think that's happening now.

Many Republicans scoff at these claims, saying a powerful tide of voter anger still runs heavily in their favor.

To be sure, Sestak has his own problems, just as Sen. Harry Reid has poor approval ratings in Nevada, and Sen. Michael Bennet struggles to defend his support of Obama in Colorado.

Portland, Maine, weighs letting noncitizens vote

PORTLAND, Maine (AP)—Like his neighbors, Claude Rwaganje pays taxes on his income and taxes on his cars. His children have gone to Portland's public schools. He's interested in the workings of Maine's largest city, which he has called home for 13 years.

There's one vital difference, though: Rwaganje isn't a U.S. citizen and isn't allowed to vote on those taxes or on school issues. That may soon change.

Portland residents will vote Nov. 2 on a proposal to give legal residents who are not U.S. citizens the right to vote in local elections, joining places like San Francisco and Chicago that have already loosened the rules or are considering it.

Noncitizens hold down jobs, pay taxes, own businesses, volunteer in the community and serve in the military, and it's only fair they be allowed to vote, Rwaganje said.

"We have immigrants who are playing key roles in different issues of this country, but they don't get the right to vote," said Rwaganje, 40, who moved to the U.S. because of political strife in his native Congo and runs a nonprofit that offers financial advice to immigrants.

Opponents of the measure say immigrants already have an avenue to cast ballots—by becoming citizens. Allowing noncitizens to vote dilutes the meaning of citizenship, they say, adding that it could lead to fraud and unfairly sway elections.

"My primary objection is I don't think it is right, I don't think it is just, I don't think it is fair," Portland resident Barbara Campbell Harvey said.

In San Francisco, a ballot question Nov. 2 will ask voters whether they want to allow noncitizens to vote in school board elections if they are the parents, legal guardians or caregivers of children in the school system.

Noncitizens are allowed to vote in school board elections in Chicago and in municipal elections in half a dozen towns in Maryland, said Ron Hayduk, a professor at the City University of New York and author of "Democracy for All: Restoring Immigrant Voting Rights in the United States."

New York City allowed noncitizens to vote in community school board elections until 2003, when the school board system was reorganized, and several municipalities in Massachusetts have approved allowing it but don't yet have the required approval from the Legislature, he said.

The Maine ballot questions asks whether legal immigrants who are city residents but not U.S. citizens should be allowed to vote in municipal elections. If the measure passes, noncitizens would be able to cast ballots in school board, city council and school budget elections, as well as other local issues, but not on federal or statewide matters.

Questions about accuser surround sex slave case

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP)—The allegations in the indictment were shocking: A young woman had been held captive for years as the sex slave of a Missouri couple. She had been locked in a cage and subjected to electrical shocks. Parts of her body had been nailed to wooden planks. When announcing charges last month, U.S. Attorney Beth Phillips called the case one of "the most horrific ever prosecuted in this district."

Authorities said the woman was a mentally deficient runaway who was recruited by an older man at the age of 16 to live in his trailer. The situation came to light in early 2009, after the woman, then 23, landed in a hospital following what prosecutors said was a torture session.

But as more details have emerged, more questions have arisen about the accuser, including her involvement in violent sex practices, her posing for a pornographic magazine and her work as a strip-club dancer. Supporters of the defendant are speaking out, too, saying many of the acts described in the indictment are practiced every day between consenting adults.

Ed Bagley, 43, faces 11 federal charges, including conspiracy, sex trafficking by force, fraud or coercion, and forced labor trafficking. Four other men also are charged with various crimes.

A graphic 21-page federal indictment describes medieval-like sexual devices being used on the woman at Bagley's mobile home about six miles outside Lebanon, in southwest Missouri. Accusations of waterboarding, suffocation and beatings are mentioned throughout.

Bagley's wife, Marilyn, said she and her husband knew the girl because she had dated their son. That relationship had ended, Bagley's wife said, but the girl wanted to come live with the couple when relations with her adoptive parents soured. She said the girl moved in when she was 17, not 16, and never had sex with her husband until after she turned 18.

ACROSS THE NATION

3 Calif. beaches closed after deadly shark attack

VANDENBERG AIR FORCE BASE, Calif. (AP)—A string of beaches on California's Central Coast were shut down Saturday and there was no word on when they would reopen after a deadly attack on a bodyboarder from what some scientists said was probably a great white shark, authorities said. The three beaches north of Santa Barbara—including Surf Beach where the attack took place—would be closed at least through the weekend and officials on Monday would decide when to reopen them, said Jeremy Eggers, spokesman for Vandenberg Air Force Base, which owns the beach property. Eggers said he expected base officials would reopen the beaches Monday, but there was too much uncertainty and confusion surrounding the attack to say for sure.

Cops: Ohio shooting victim complained about gunman

CLEVELAND (AP)—A woman was shot to death Friday outside the manufacturing plant where she worked by a man whom she had complained about to police, and the gunman also killed her co-worker, authorities said.

Police say Pedro Rodriguez shot Graciela Morales, 49, in her sport-utility vehicle parked outside the factory, then used her employee identification card to gain access to the building. Once inside, Rodriguez sought out 49-year-old Eduardo Pupo and shot him, police said. Rodriguez fled the scene in a car and was hit by a stun gun while police apprehended him later that afternoon.

Coast Guard checks on discolored water near La.

NEW ORLEANS (AP)—The Coast Guard said Saturday that an area of discolored water near a Mississippi River pass south of New Orleans appears to be an algae bloom, but another spot 10 miles away could be oil. Jeff Hall, spokesman for the Unified Area Command, said tests could determine if the suspected oil is from the BP spill. The Coast Guard sent two flights over the West Bay area near Venice on Saturday. Two boats also went out to check the waters. Hall told The Associated Press that tests will be done Monday on water samples from an area where a marine investigator believes there's an algae bloom near Venice. The area of discolored water there was about 2.5 miles long and 300 yards wide, Hall said.

Asia

Hundreds stage anti-Japan protest in SW China

BEIJING (AP)—Hundreds of people staged an anti-Japan protest in southwestern China on Saturday, even as school officials there ordered students to attend classes over the weekend in hopes of preventing a repeat of rowdy demonstrations over the past weeks.

Rumors had been circulating that students in several cities would protest again this weekend, following several demonstrations that vented anger with Japan for its detention of a Chinese fishing boat captain.

Last month, the fishing boat collided with Japanese patrol vessels near a chain of islands in the East China Sea that are claimed by both countries. The dispute quickly spiraled into a major diplomatic standoff, though tensions have begun to subside.

A large crowd began gathering Saturday morning at Deyang city's Confucian Temple Square and demonstrators marched in the afternoon, said a woman surnamed Zhang who works in a nearby music shop. There were hundreds of people and the square was packed, she said.

AP

Anti-Japan protesters face off police officers during a demonstration in the southwestern Chinese city of Deyang on Saturday Oct. 23, 2010.

The anti-Japan protesters were mostly students, said a man surnamed Ye who works at an optical shop close to the square and saw the march pass by about 3 p.m.

The protest took place despite a heavy police presence, Zhang said. By evening, the protesters had left but many police remained in the square.

It was not known whether there was any violence or clashes with police. Phones at the Deyang city government and police department rang unanswered Saturday evening.

NATO squeezing Taliban, but no claims of victory

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—Taliban commanders dead or captured. Insurgents routed from strongholds. Stopping short of claiming it has broken the back of the insurgency, NATO is touting progress ahead of Washington's year-end review of the war—and hoping that this time, the alliance has the force and experience to keep militants from regaining momentum.

Besides the White House review, the top U.S.-NATO commander in Afghanistan, Gen. David Petraeus, must convince allies at a NATO gathering next month that his war strategy is working and the campaign deserves continued support.

The Taliban are being battered in the south in offensives by fortified NATO forces, but militants remain active in the east and have opened new fronts in the north. Insurgents have been beaten back in the past, only to quickly reclaim lost territory.

"We genuinely believe that we are beginning to show real progress," said Mark Sedwill, the NATO force's top civilian official. "We're very cautious about it. We're not beating our chests suggesting that suddenly 2010 has been dramatically different from what happened before."

A little more than a year ago, Petraeus's predecessor Gen. Stanley McChrystal said the war effort was "deteriorating" and could fail without an influx of tens of thousands of additional troops. Soon after, President Barack Obama ordered more than 30,000 U.S. reinforcements, who finished arriving in Afghanistan at the end of August.

Sedwill said NATO commanders believe McChrystal's assessment "is no longer the case—that we are on course to regain the initiative by the end of 2010."

In the past 90 days, 293 insurgent leaders have been captured or killed, and the Taliban are finding it increasingly difficult to replace commanders, according to a senior operations adviser at NATO headquarters in Kabul.

ASIAN BRIEFS

China downgrades Megi, lifts typhoon warning

BEIJING (AP)—Torrential rains drenched China's southeastern coast Sunday as the government downgraded Typhoon Megi to a tropical depression and more than 300,000 evacuees waited to return to their battered homes. Megi hit China on Saturday, dumping up to 33 centimeters (13 inches) of rain on coastal villages after the storm cut a swath of destruction through the first the Philippines and then Taiwan. Landslides and flooding in Taiwan killed as many as 31 people, and Megi killed at least 28 people in the northern Philippines. No deaths were reported in China, but news reports said there was extensive damage to fishing boats and shellfish beds in coastal Fujian province, where more heavy rain was falling Sunday.

Ex-convict kills 3, wounds 6 in Philippines school

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—An ex-convict stabbed nine people at a Philippines elementary school Friday, killing three, before parents wrestled away his knife and stabbed him to death with it, police said. The man killed a teacher, a 5th-grader and an elderly man who was among those who tried to grab the attacker's knife, police Superintendent Hado Edding said. The man first barged into a room at the Talisayan Elementary School in Zamboanga City in the south and fatally stabbed a teacher, Edding told The Associated Press. He then went to another room, herded 5th grade students into a restroom and stabbed them one by one until the adults were able to stop him. Four students and two teachers were being treated at Zamboanga's Brent Hospital, including an 11-year-old girl and one teacher in serious condition, said Dr. Raymond Sator, who was contacted by phone. Edding said the attacker was Fely Mateo, who had served a prison sentence for murder.

44 saved in Indonesian ferry sinking; 22 missing

MAUMERE, Indonesia (AP)—Fishermen who rushed to the scene of a ferry sinking helped rescuers save 44 passengers, plucking them out of rough seas, an official said Saturday. Nearly two dozen people were missing a day after the ship went down, though no bodies have been found. The Tersanjung was carrying 66 crew and passengers when it sank Friday about seven miles (10 kilometers) off the cape of Watumanuk on Flores island in East Nusatenggara province. Rescuers and quick-acting fishermen brought 44 survivors to a hospital for examination, said Riswan, an official of the local Search and Rescue Agency. A search was called off for the night but will resume Sunday, according to Riswan, who uses only one name.

World

Leaked Iraq war files portray weak, divided nation

WASHINGTON (AP)—The enormous cache of secret war logs disclosed by the WikiLeaks website paints a picture of an Iraq burdened by persistent sectarian tension and meddling neighbors, suggesting that the country could drift into chaos once U.S. forces leave.

The reports, covering early 2004 to Jan. 1, 2010, help explain why Iraq's struggle to create a unified, independent state continues, despite a dramatic reduction in violence. They appear to support arguments by some experts that the U.S. should keep thousands of troops there beyond their scheduled departure in 2011, to buy more time for Iraq to become stable.

The threats described in the leaked documents come from outside, including next-door Iran, as well as inside, in the form of sectarian, political and even family rivalries that predate the 2003 American-led invasion and endure today.

The reports demonstrate the weakness of Iraq's civic institutions, court system and military, even before sectarian violence exploded in 2006-2007.

In the fall of 2005, the U.S. military discovered evidence of plots to assassinate various officials, including an Iraqi Army colonel. In September, one of the war logs said, a group of judges was abducted in Balad, beaten and forced into the trunk of a car.

Another example: On June 6, 2006, U.S. forces reported discovering large amounts of blood on the floor, a rubber hose and electric wires rigged to a metal door in a holding cell in an Iraqi police station in Husaybah, in western Iraq.

The report called the discoveries "evidence of unchecked torture" and "clear indications" of human rights violations.

The U.S. report said that for a time, U.S. military advisers slept in the police station to make sure prisoners were not abused, checked arrest logs and counseled Iraqi police, warning them against these practices.

But even a program of training and counseling didn't put an end to the abuses. According to a report dated Feb. 16, 2009, U.S. forces reported the mistreatment of 33 detainees in custody at the same police station.

Cholera outbreak creeps closer to Haiti's capital

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP)—A spreading cholera outbreak in rural Haiti threatened to outpace aid groups as they stepped up efforts Saturday hoping to keep the disease from reaching the squalid camps of earthquake survivors in Port-au-Prince.

Health officials said at least 208 people had died and 2,674 others were infected in an outbreak mostly centered in the Artibonite region north of the capital.

But the number of cases in towns near Port-au-Prince were rising, and officials worried the next target will be hundreds of thousands of Haitians left homeless by January's devastating quake and now living in camps across the capital.

"If the epidemic makes its way to Port-au-Prince, where children and families are living in unsanitary, overcrowded camps, the results could be disastrous," said Dr. Estrella Serrano, World Vision's emergency response health and nutrition manager.

Reports trickled in of patients seeking treatment in clinics closer to Port-au-Prince because the St. Nicholas hospital in the seaside city of St. Marc is overflowing, said Margaret Aguirre, an International Medical Corps spokeswoman.

At least five people who traveled from the Artibonite region to Port-au-Prince on Saturday tested positive for cholera once they arrived in the capital, where they are being treated, she said. Aguirre said they are not considered the first cholera cases of Port-au-Prince because officials believe the people contracted the disease in Artibonite.

One doctor in the capital reported that a 6-year-old girl from Port-au-Prince's southern Carrefour district tested positive for cholera, although government health officials were investigating and had not confirmed the case.

"The child was in very weak condition," Dr. Willy Lafond Edwight told The Associated Press. "She couldn't stand up. She couldn't even talk. ... I guarantee that if you find one case, many more cases will appear."

Officials confirmed at least five cholera cases in Arcahaie, a town close to Port-au-Prince, and four cases in Limbe, a small northern municipality.

WORLD BRIEFS

Mexico: 13 dead in massacre at Ciudad Juarez party

CIUDAD JUAREZ, Mexico (AP)—Gunmen stormed two neighboring homes and massacred 13 young people at a birthday party in the latest large-scale attack in this violent border city, even as a new government strategy seeks to restore order with social programs and massive police deployments. Attackers in two vehicles pulled up to the houses in a lower-middle-class Ciudad Juarez neighborhood late Friday and opened fire on about four dozen partygoers gathered for a 15-year-old boy's birthday party. The dead identified so far were 13 to 32 years old, including six women and girls, Chihuahua state Attorney General Carlos Salas told reporters at a news conference at the crime scene. The majority of the victims were high school students, a survivor said.

Bahrain's Shiites turn to ballots after crackdowns

MANAMA, Bahrain (AP)—After facing months of crackdowns, Shiite leaders in the tiny island kingdom of Bahrain awaited results Sunday from parliamentary elections they hope will be a show of strength against Sunni rulers. But early allegations of voting problems point to possible challenges to the outcome in this key Western ally. The claims—which include hundreds of Shiites reportedly blocked from voting—could complicate hopes of cooling tensions after waves of arrests and street clashes between majority Shiites who claim widespread discrimination and the Sunni leadership seeking to maintain its grip. The voting Saturday is likely to resonate well beyond the 40-seat chamber at stake, and could touch on the long-term stability of Bahrain, a strategic American partner. As home of the U.S. Navy's 5th Fleet, the island nation is a centerpiece of Washington's efforts to confront Iran's military expansion in the Gulf.

Tropical Storm Richard brushes Honduran coast

TEGUCIGALPA, Honduras (AP)—Tropical Storm Richard gained strength Saturday, lashing the Caribbean coast of Honduras with strong winds and heavy rain that threatened potentially deadly flash floods and landslides. The storm was expected to pass "near or over" Honduras' coast late Saturday and become a hurricane on Sunday, according to the U.S. National Hurricane Center in Miami, Florida. Honduran authorities declared a red, or maximum, alert in four coastal provinces. Richard is also likely to pass near the Honduran island of Roatan, which is popular with tourists and divers, before making landfall in Belize late Sunday or early Monday.

Health & Fitness

Some Africans, poor no more, hit by new diseases

By DONNA BRYSON
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

JOHANNESBURG (AP)—The medical experts gathered from around Africa were here to talk about a continentwide epidemic, but it wasn't AIDS or malaria—it was diabetes, and the bad habits that often bring it on.

A growing urban middle class is defying the image of Africa as poor, underfed and under-medicated. And with the comforts of middle class life, afflictions familiar in the West are making inroads here too—obesity, diabetes, lung cancer, strokes, heart disease.

A continent that traditionally traveled on foot or by bicycle now increasingly rides cars and buses. More time is spent at desks. Elevators are replacing stairs. White-collar Africans are discovering the gym.

"In the past, we used to exercise without knowing it," South Africa's health minister, Aaron Motsoaledi, reminded the recent conference.

"You would walk a long distance to school. You would walk a long distance to work. You would walk a long distance to the shops," Motsoaledi, 52, recalled of his childhood. "But now I'm an African whose child is dropped at the gate of the school in a car, then picked up at the end of the day and put in front of the TV..."

In West Africa, Cameroonians who once ate rice only as a holiday treat are loading their plates with it, crowding out the vegetables their parents ate. Down south, Malawians say fast foods are a status symbol.

In Nairobi, Kenya, a sobering chat with his doctor got 27-year-old Robel Demissi to the gym. "My blood pressure had gone up, a bit more than last year, and my weight was eight kilograms (17 pounds) more. That's a lot," he says.

Demissi, a pilot for a Kenyan airline, blames his weight gain on junk food and a workload that leaves little time for exercise. But lest he flunk his physical and lose his flying license, he has taken up a Thai martial art and has lost six kilograms (15 pounds) in two months.

"I never used to have the time to train," he said, "but now I have two motivating factors to make the time: my job and my life."

All over the world, these lifestyle diseases tend to go hand in hand with urbanization and industrialization, and the results are felt in rising obesity rates and related illnesses. But they are all the more unwelcome in Africa, which already struggles with AIDS and malaria.

AP

This Sept. 9, 2010 photo shows Ida Mulenga at her home in Johannesburg. Mulenga, a veterinarian, says that if you're eating McDonald's in your house, it means you've got money.

"These countries are really faced with a double burden," said Dr. Timothy Armstrong, an expert on chronic diseases with the U.N. World Health Organization. How, he wonders, is a doctor treating AIDS or malaria to find time to lecture patients about watching their weight?

Armstrong wants African governments to follow the West's lead with tobacco taxes and pressure on the food industry to cut salt and sugar content. But awareness often is lacking.

Fatima Macuacua, 31, owns a grocery store in Maputo, capital of Mozambique, and refuses to believe her favorite fast foods could be bad for her.

"Cancer, diabetes, high blood pressure and other diseases are not a big problem for Africans," she insists. "Maybe for Europeans."

Besides, the middle class on the world's poorest continent is still tiny, and for many, issues of food are much more basic than gluten and trans fatty acids. A sharp rise in bread prices triggered riots in Maputo this year.

But free-market reforms have given Mozambique growth rates as high as 10 percent a year, meaning a boom for some, and gyms have sprouted in the capital.

The rise of lifestyle diseases is too recent for solid statistics to exist. Kenyan health authorities say only this year did they start counting cases of obesity and fatal heart attacks and strokes.

But at least the problem is getting attention.

Kenyan cardiologist Elijah Ogola says his own observations convince him there's a problem and is especially worried about the patterns being set for children, who are less active than their parents were at their age.

"Generally our lives are so crowded that if you can afford to exercise you do not have the time to," Ogola said in an interview. "You get into a matatu (bus), into the lift (elevator), and sit at your desk."

Dr. Jean Claude Mbanya, president of the International Diabetes Foundation, said urban planners could help, for example, by designing car-free zones where Africans can rediscover walking.

Mbanya said that 15 years ago in his homeland, Cameroon, 5 percent of adults had conditions pointing to developing diabetes later in life and 1.2 percent already had the disease. Ten years later, he said, the figures were 9 percent and 7 percent. Mbanya's foundation estimates 12 million sub-Saharan Africans have diabetes—and estimates the number will double by 2030 to become the world's hardest-hit region.

Researchers writing recently in the New England Journal of Medicine said chronic diseases such as diabetes account for 60 percent of all deaths worldwide, and 80 percent of those are in poorer countries, where younger people in their prime working years are most vulnerable.

Mbanya, 52, recalled that a child, he only ate rice on Christmas, and a trip into town meant walking, sometimes for days.

Now, he said, rice is eaten every day. City dwellers no longer grow their vegetables, and they rarely exercise.

Jimmy Sagawa, a chef for a hotel chain in Malawi, said people are starting to see eating out as trendy, dismissing traditional foods like nsima, or corn porridge.

"Our women have forgotten the art of cooking that their mothers taught them," Sagawa said. "They think taking the family to eat out is a symbol of the high life."

Or, as Johannesburg veterinarian Ida Mulenga puts it, "if you're eating McDonald's in your house, it means you've got money in your house."

South Africa, with the continent's most developed economy, has stood out in addressing the threat of lifestyle diseases. An increase in cigarette taxes has been linked to a decline in smoking and smoking-related diseases since the 1990s. Smoking is banned in public places, a novelty in Africa, and legislation is being drafted to limit artery-clogging trans fats in food.

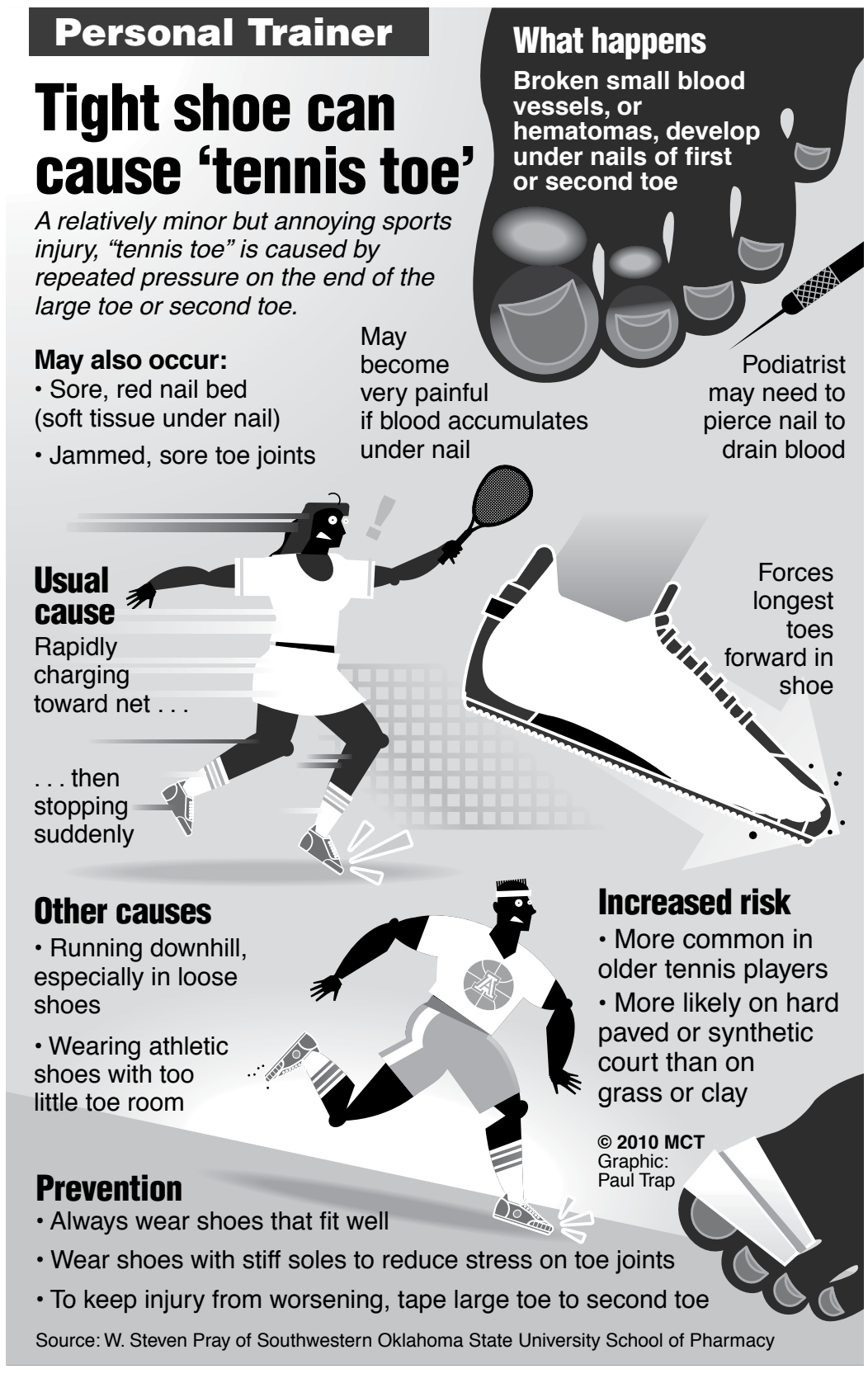
Still, the Heart and Stroke Foundation of South Africa estimates a third of the men and more than half the women here are overweight or obese.

From Cape Town's Groote Schuur Hospital, where the world's first heart transplant was performed, comes research showing that South African deaths from diabetes were up 38 percent between 1999 and 2006, and heart disease up 20 percent.

Mulenga, the Johannesburg vet, is 35 and works out regularly at a gym. In 2008 she ran her first 10-kilometer (6 mile) road race. She says she got inspiration from a friend, Orah Bessit, a retired saleswoman who grows her own vegetables, walks and runs and is now a youthfullooking 66.

Bessit recognizes that staying healthy requires sacrifices, so she has given up hamburgers and switched from white bread to whole-grain.

"When I started eating whole-grain bread, it was like sawdust," she said. "But I had to get used to it, for my health. Because if you eat healthy, you live long, without all of these diseases."


Personal Trainer
Tight shoe can cause 'tennis toe'
A relatively minor but annoying sports injury, "tennis toe" is caused by repeated pressure on the end of the large toe or second toe.
What happens
Broken small blood vessels, or hematomas, develop under nails of first or second toe
May also occur:
• Sore, red nail bed (soft tissue under nail)
• Jammed, sore toe joints
May become very painful if blood accumulates under nail
Podiatrist may need to pierce nail to drain blood
Usual cause
Rapidly charging toward net . . .
. . . then stopping suddenly
Forces longest toes forward in shoe
Other causes
• Running downhill, especially in loose shoes
• Wearing athletic shoes with too little toe room
Increased risk
• More common in older tennis players
• More likely on hard paved or synthetic court than on grass or clay
© 2010 MCT
Graphic: Paul Trap
Prevention
• Always wear shoes that fit well
• Wear shoes with stiff soles to reduce stress on toe joints
• To keep injury from worsening, tape large toe to second toe
Source: W. Steven Pray of Southwestern Oklahoma State University School of Pharmacy

Life & Style

Thousands brave rain, attend Japanese Autumn Festival

Children of different nationalities perform traditional Japanese dances to the beat of the drum at the annual Japanese Autumn Festival on Saturday.
HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Perry Tenorio, right, takes part in a Japanese sake drinking ceremony at the annual Japanese Autumn Festival at the Sugar King Round House in Garapan on Saturday.
HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Perry Tenorio, left, joins his father, former governor Pedro P. Tenorio, center, in a Japanese sake drinking ceremony while former first lady Sophie Tenorio, right, looks on, at the annual Japanese Autumn Festival on Saturday.
HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

The beat of a drum adds rhythm and color to the annual Japanese Autumn Festival in Garapan on Saturday, marking the 25th anniversary of the rebuilding of the Katori Jingu Shrine at the Sugar King Park.
HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

A man is busy rearranging his mask merchandise on the grounds of the annual Japanese Autumn Festival on Saturday.
HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The intermittent rain did not get in the way of over a thousand community members trooping to the Sugar King grounds to join in the celebration of the Japanese Autumn Festival last Oct. 23.

The festival opened with the breaking of the sake keg called *taru* by officials and guests of the Japanese Society of Northern Marianas.

The annual festival was organized by the Japanese Society of Northern Marianas, which also commemorated its 25th founding anniversary.

Chair Nick Nishikawa told *Saipan Tribune* that this year's festival has more participation from the community compared to last year.

"Despite the rain, a lot of people came here and we are very happy about the turnout," said Nishikawa.

Vice chair Yoichi Matsumura also expressed appreciation to all the people who have been attending the festival for over 20 years and made the event very successful.

"It's a celebration of everyone—Japanese, locals, Filipinos, Chinese, Koreans—who want to experience Japanese culture on Saipan," he said.

Julie Fejeran said she has always made it a point to bring her family to the festival every year to try out the good food and exciting games for kids.

"It's a good time to take out the family and have a fun weekend," said Fejeran who went with her mother, niece, nephew, and her dog named Jinxy.

Nahoko Ishida said the festival is a great venue for her children aged 8 and 14 to enjoy and have fun.

"My two girls wanted to come and I thought it will be entertaining for them since they don't have malls to visit here," said Ishida who has lived on Saipan for 15 years.

The Japanese Autumn Festival was highlighted by traditional and modern Japanese performances from the Yosakoi Soran group and Japanese music from the Shamisen group which made use of the three-stringed traditional Japanese musical instrument in producing beautiful melodies.

The festival also featured various food stations, game tents, and a bazaar set up at the festival grounds. The Yosakoi Soran group also sold delicious Hotate clams from Hokkaido.

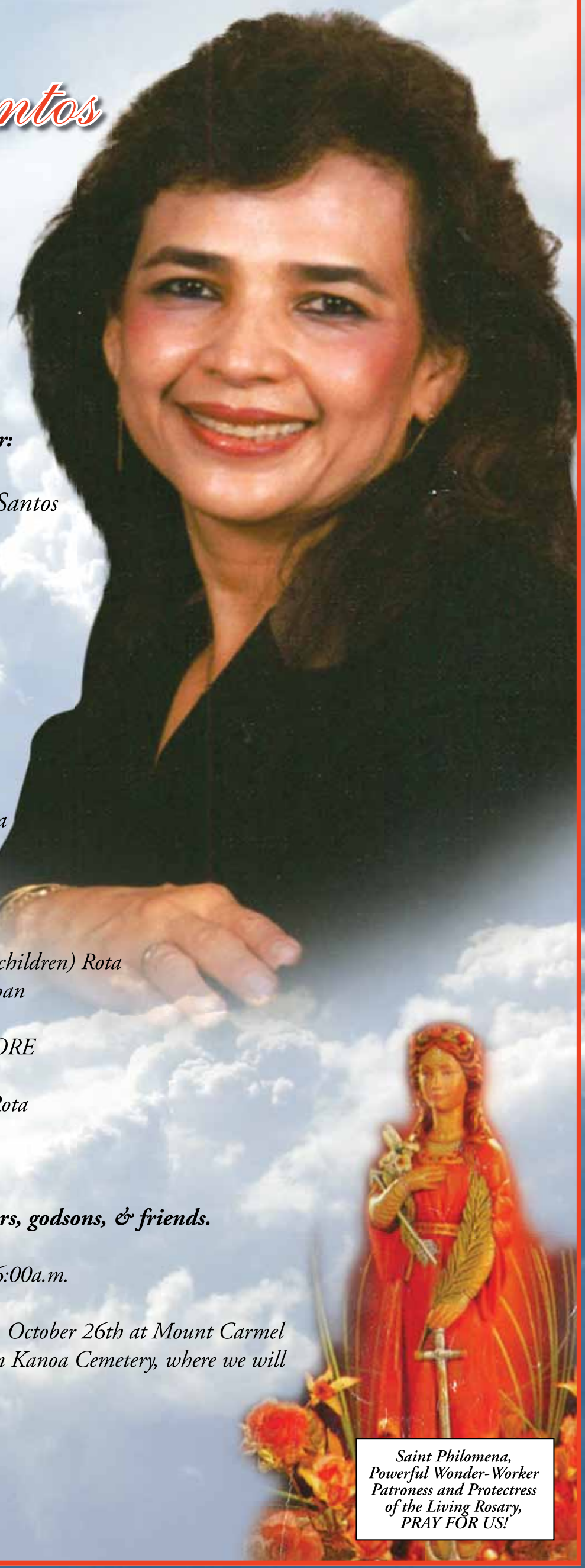
Japanese women perform classical "Gagaku," which literally means elegant music, at the annual Japanese Autumn Festival at the Sugar King Round House in Garapan on Saturday.
HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Juana Palacios Santos

"ANNING/JUANET"

April 08, 1959 - October 16, 2010
of Capitol Hill, Saipan was called home by
Our Heavenly Father at the age of 51.



In her new life, Juanet will be met at the gate of heaven by her:

Father: *Francisco Camacho Palacios*
Father-in-law: *Simeon Masga Santos*

Juanet's love and memories will forever remain in the hearts of her:

Husband: *Eugene (Gene) Apatang Santos*
Sons: *Gene Rodney P. Santos & Garridan P. Santos*
Daughter: *Julene P. Santos & John Del Rosario*

Mother: *Raimunda Tudela Palacios*
Mother-in-law: *Dolores Apatang Santos*
Sisters, Brothers-in-Law, Nieces & Nephews, Grandnieces & Grandnephews
Sisters-in-law: *Francisca S./Manases M. Barcinas (Children/Grandchildren) WA*
Maria S./Joseph N. Castro (Children/Grandchildren) WA
Representative Teresita A. Santos (†Son) Rota
Cathy S. Brown (Sons) VA
Maryann S./Francisco B. Songsong (Children/Grandchildren) Guam
Brothers-in-law: *Richard A. Santos/Christina Poll (Son) WA*
Mateo A./Rosita A. Santos (Children/Grandchildren) Rota
James A./Joaquina V. Santos (Children) Saipan
Paul A. Santos (Children) AR
Simeon A./Annabelle A. Santos (Children) ORE
David A./Mina Santos (Son) Rota
Joseph Brain/Patricia S. Santos (Children) Rota
Special Friend/Niece: *Becky Manglona Taisague TX*
Monica Arakaki HI

She will also be missed by numerous uncles, aunts, goddaughters, godsons, & friends.

Daily Mass of Intention is being offered at Mount Carmel Cathedral at 6:00a.m.

Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:00 a.m on Tuesday, October 26th at Mount Carmel Cathedral, in Chalan Kanoa. Interment service will follow at Chalan Kanoa Cemetery, where we will bid her farewell and a peaceful rest.

Si Yu'us Ma'ase and Thank You,

Eugene (Gene) Apatang Santos
Children & Family

Saint Philomena,
Powerful Wonder-Worker
Patroness and Protectress
of the Living Rosary,
PRAY FOR US!

Randy Quaid, wife seek refugee status in Canada

VANCOUVER (AP)—Actor Randy Quaid told Canada's immigration board Friday that he and his wife are seeking asylum from "the murderers of Hollywood" and will therefore apply for refugee status in Canada, after they were arrested on U.S. warrants related to vandalism charges.

The pair were arrested on Thursday afternoon in a shopping area of an affluent Vancouver neighborhood and were jailed on outstanding U.S. warrants.

The Quaids are wanted in Santa Barbara, where they missed a court hearing Monday on felony vandalism charges.

The Quaids were ordered released from custody Friday, but must each post $9,750 bail and fulfill their promise to appear for their next hearing Thursday.

Santa Barbara County Senior Deputy District Attorney Lee Carter said Friday that Quaid and his wife Evi's bail increased to $500,000 apiece.

Their attorney, Robert Sanger, said he hoped the situation could be resolved but declined comment citing the pending case.

The couple told the immigration adjudicator they are being persecuted in the United States.

Evi Quaid begged a Canadian immigration adjudicator not to force them to return, saying on Friday that friends, such as actors David Carradine and Heath Ledger, have been "murdered" under mysterious circumstances and she worried something would happen to her husband next.

"We feel our lives are in danger," she said. "Randy has known eight close friends murdered in odd, strange manners ... We feel that we're next."

AP

In these Sept. 18, 2010 file images originally provided by the Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Office, actor Randy Quaid and his wife Evi Quaid, are shown after their Saturday Sept. 18, 2010 arrest on charges of felony residential burglary and entering a non-commercial building without consent.

During a break in the proceedings, the Quaids' lawyer, Brian Tsuji approached the media to read a single-sentence statement from the Quaids. "We are requesting asylum from Hollywood star whackers," he read, declining further comment on the mental state of his clients.

Evi Quaid said she's been told by a jail nurse that her blood pressure is dangerously high due to stress and that Randy Quaid's mother has been hospitalized in the U.S. as a result of the stress from their legal troubles.

Friday's hearing was a mandatory detention review.

On Friday, the Quaids promised they would appear for their next hearing. Evi Quaid said she'd be willing to wear an ankle bracelet while staying at a posh Vancouver hotel.

Randy Quaid said the couple came to Canada because he was being given an award by a film critics group. He said they were considering moving to Vancouver where Randy planned to jump-start his career.

He said the pair believed the warrants were issued by mistake and had been withdrawn and the couple didn't travel north in an effort to skip out on them.

"Canada is a beautiful country for what we want to do," Quaid said outside the hearing room, without elaborating on his plans. Quaid was questioned by a reporter if the couple are dealing with a substance abuse problem, which he denied.

"It's been a very welcoming nation to me," he said. "I would not do anything to besmirch my reputation."

The Quaids face no charges in Canada.

A U.S. judge issued arrest warrants Monday for the couple after they failed to show up at a California court hearing stemming from their arrests last month on suspicion of illegally squatting at a home.

Quaid and his wife face felony vandalism charges after more than $5,000 in damage was found in a guest house of a Montecito, California home they had previously owned.

The Quaids frequently missed court appearances in an earlier U.S. case involving charges they defrauded an innkeeper. That case was resolved in April with Evi Quaid pleading no contest to a misdemeanor. The charges against her husband were dropped.

OJ Simpson appeal denied by Nevada Supreme Court

LAS VEGAS (AP)—The Nevada Supreme Court refused Friday to overturn O.J. Simpson's armed robbery and kidnapping convictions, rejecting a claim that prospective jurors were dismissed because they were black.

Simpson attorney Yale Galanter planned to take Simpson's appeal to federal court after his 2008 conviction in the gunpoint heist in a Las Vegas hotel room was upheld.

"This is but the first step in a very long line of appeals that Mr. Simpson has before him," Galanter said.

Galanter was trying to reach Simpson in prison but had not yet spoken to the former NFL hall-of-famer, actor and advertising pitchman.

"I'm extremely disappointed," added Malcolm LaVergne, another Simpson lawyer. "I thought we had a very strong appeal."

The court said all eight separate issues raised in the appeal—some alleging misconduct by prosecutors and the judge—were without merit.

"We felt that we were on solid legal ground and that Judge Glass made appropriate decisions during the trial," Clark County District Attorney David Roger said.

Separately, the court ordered the conviction of Simpson's co-defendant Clarence "C.J." Stewart to be reversed and a new trial held. Stewart's lawyers successfully contended that Simpson's notoriety had hurt Stewart's ability to get a fair trial.

"This is no disrespect to O.J., but O.J. kind of made his own bed over the years," said attorney Brent Bryson, who represents Stewart. "My guy was kind of taken along for the ride."

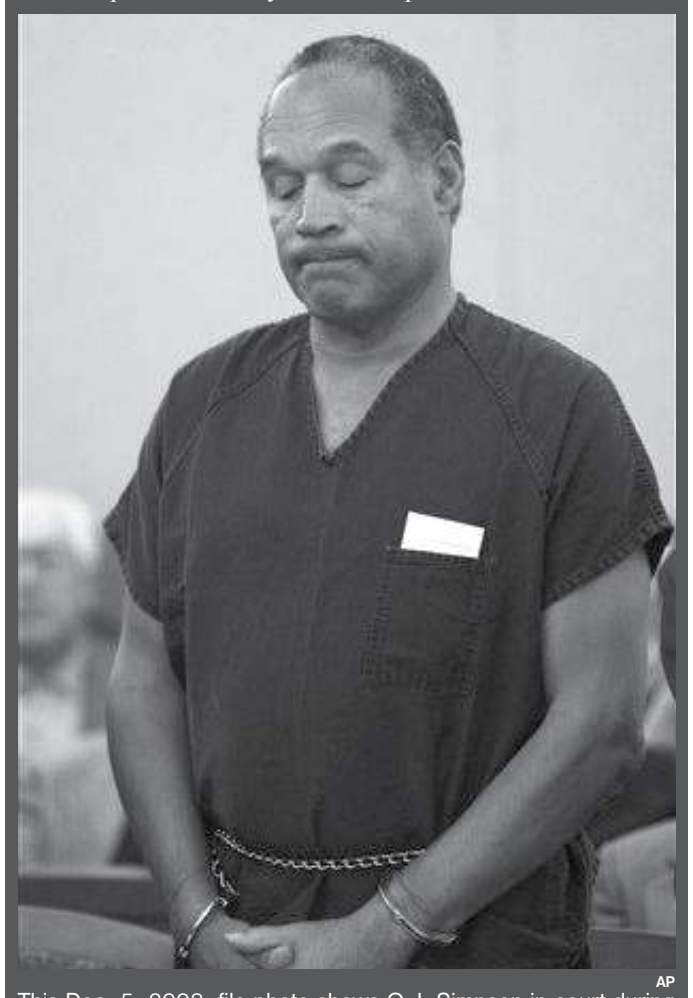
Bryson planned to meet with Clark County prosecutors to determine the next legal steps while trying to get Stewart released from prison. Roger said his office would decide how to proceed in the next few weeks.

Simpson, 63, is serving nine to 33 years at a state prison in Lovelock Correctional Center, 90 miles northeast of Reno. Stewart, 56, is serving 7 1/2 to 27 years in Northern Nevada Correctional Center, a medium-security prison in Carson City.

Both men were convicted of kidnapping, armed robbery, conspiracy and other crimes for what Simpson maintained was an attempt to retrieve stolen family photos and mementoes from memorabilia dealers.

Middle-man Thomas Riccio arranged the Palace Station hotel room meeting for a client interested in obtaining Simpson mementos and other memorabilia from collectors Bruce Fromong and Alfred Beardsley.

The client turned out to be Simpson, who entered the room with Riccio, Stewart and four other men. Two were armed. They left with pillow cases stuffed with the memorabilia and Fromong's hat and cell phone.



AP

This Dec. 5, 2008, file photo shows O.J. Simpson in court during his sentencing hearing at the Clark County Regional Justice Center in Las Vegas.

Gone from NPR, Williams begins bigger role on Fox

AP

News analyst Juan Williams appears on the "Fox & friends" television program in New York, Thursday, Oct. 21, 2010.

WASHINGTON (AP)—As listeners and angry citizens complained to NPR and public radio stations across the country over the firing of Juan Williams, the news analyst kept up his own criticism of his former employer as he began a bigger role with Fox News Channel.

As the guest host Friday night of "The O'Reilly Factor," Williams, who was axed for saying he gets nervous on a plane when he sees Muslims, mentioned several remarks made by other NPR commentators that didn't result in firings.

"My comments about my feelings supposedly crossed this line, some line, somewhere. That crossed the line?" Williams said. "Let me tell you what you can say on National Public Radio without losing your job."

Williams went on to note that commentator Nina Totenberg said 15 years ago that if there is "retributive justice," former Republican North Carolina Sen. Jesse Helms or one of his grandchildren will get AIDS from a transfusion.

An NPR spokeswoman said Totenberg has repeatedly apologized for her comments.

Meanwhile, a number of major stations said they were meeting or surpassing their fundraising goals in the wake of the furor over Williams' dismissal, despite it being pledge season.

"We find ourselves kind of caught between NPR and the audience," said Craig Curtis, program director at KPCC in Pasadena, Calif., which won't hold its pledge drive until next month. He said the station had received about 150 comments on the firing, mostly disapproving, and three people asked to cancel their memberships.

Conservative leaders including Sarah Palin called on Congress to cut off NPR's federal funding—an idea that was also raised in the 1990s and didn't get very far.

Williams was fired Wednesday over comments he made on "The O'Reilly Factor."

"When I get on a plane," he said, "I got to tell you, if I see people who are in Muslim garb and I think, you know, they are identifying themselves first and foremost as Muslims, I get worried. I get nervous."

Brand, Perry wed at tiger reserve in India

RANTHAMBHORE NATIONAL PARK, India (AP)—Comedian Russell Brand and pop star Katy Perry were married Saturday in northwestern India, the couple confirmed in a statement.

A Christian minister and longtime friend of Perry's family performed a "private and spiritual ceremony," which was attended by family members and close friends, said the statement released by the couple's representatives.

"The backdrop was the inspirational and majestic countryside of Northern India," said the statement, which did not provide any further details on the ceremony.

The wedding was held at the Aman-e-Khas luxury resort in a tiger reserve in Ranthambhore National Park, a hotel official said on condition of anonymity as he was not authorized to speak to the media.

Security has been stringent with private security guards stationed at the resort and other nearby hotels where guests and the couple are staying for the six-day wedding celebration.

Photographers and media reporters were not allowed into the Aman-e-Khas wildlife retreat. The couple have given the exclusive coverage rights to a London magazine, and no other photographers or journalists will be allowed into the resort.

AP

British actor-comedian Russell Brand smiles at a group of tourists passing by at the Ranthambore National Park in Ranthambore, India, Friday, Oct. 22, 2010.

The wedding venue was lit with lamps, colorful lights illuminated the trees and flower garlands festooned the luxury tents at the resort, the hotel official said.

Both Brand and Perry wore traditional Indian clothes to the wedding, the hotel official said. Perry donned a sari, as did a number of other female guests at the ceremony. On Friday, at a prenuptial celebration, Perry, like a typical Indian bride, had henna designs applied on her palms and hands.

Meanwhile, a four-member committee had been set up to check noise pollution from the wedding celebration and ensure that animals in the wildlife reserve in India's Rajasthan state are not disturbed, said Ravi Kumar, a district official.

Ranthambhore National Park is home to a host of wildlife species including tigers, leopards, wild boars, hyenas and sloth bears.

The British comedian's wedding procession, accompanied by traditional Indian musicians, made its way from Sher Bagh, another nearby luxury resort, to the Aman-e-Khas retreat.

Brand proposed to the American pop singer, whose parents are Christian pastors, in the historic Indian city of Jaipur over New Year's Eve, and the couple decided to get married in India.

The 26-year-old Perry's single "California Gurls," from her second album "Teenage Dream," was one of the top hits of the year.

Brand, 35, is known for his drug-addled past and hedonistic tendencies, but says he has lived a sober life for the last few years. He recently starred in the hit film comedy "Get Him to the Greek," and is next set to star as Trinculo in Shakespeare's "The Tempest" and as the title character in a remake of the 1981 Dudley Moore-Liza Minnelli film "Arthur."

Chris Rock to make his Broadway debut next year

NEW YORK (AP)—Comedian Chris Rock will make his Broadway debut in a new play about love and fidelity with an X-rated title.

Rock will join Bobby Cannavale, Elizabeth Rodriguez, Annabella Sciorra and Yul Vazquez in a production of Stephen Adly Guirgis' play "The Mother ... With the Hat." (The title includes an expletive.)

The 14-week engagement begins previews on March 22 at the Gerald Schoenfeld Theatre.

The play centers on Jackie (Cannavale), a parolee who is newly sober, and his girlfriend, who is not. Rock will play Jackie's sponsor.

Anna D. Shapiro, who won a Tony for directing "August: Osage County," will helm the project.

AP

In this June 25, 2010 file photo, Chris Rock appears on the "Fox & Friends" television program in New York.

Levi Johnston unsure if he's with Democrats or GOP

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Levi Johnston says he hasn't decided whether he'll run for mayor of his Alaska hometown as a Democrat or a Republican.

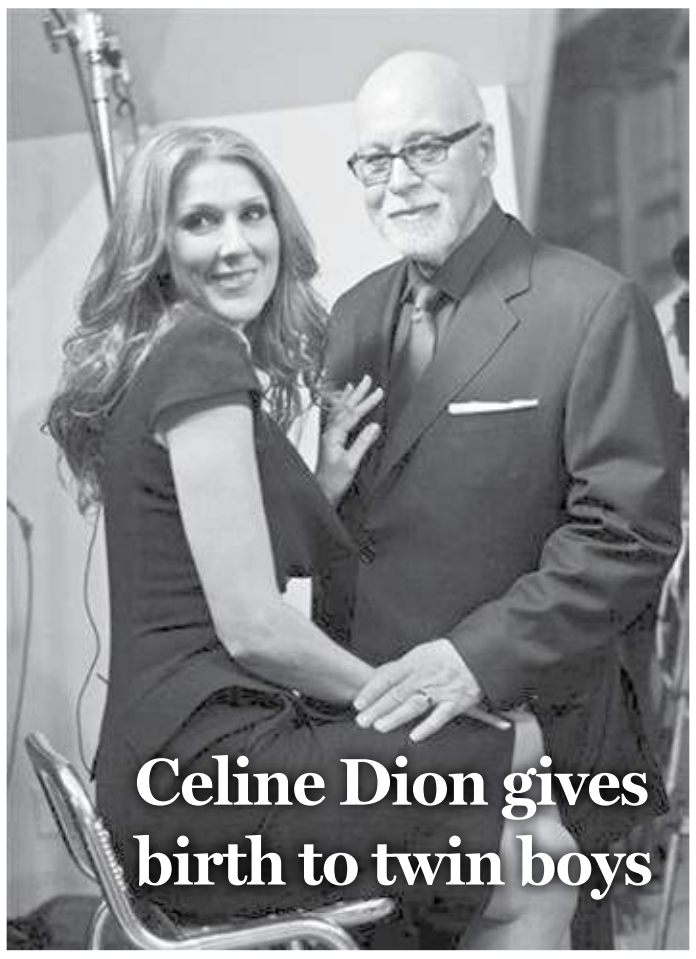
Johnston, the father of Sarah Palin's grandson, plans to run for the office in Wasilla as part of a reality TV show.

He said on "Real Time with Bill Maher" Friday that he's been talking to residents about his candidacy and is working on building a platform, although he didn't offer specifics.

Palin, the Republican vice presidential nominee in 2008, served as mayor of Wasilla from 1996-2002. She was elected governor in 2006.

Johnston says the appearance on Maher's HBO show would be his last interview for a while.

Celine Dion gives birth to twin boys



AP

In this Feb. 16, 2010 file photo, Celine Dion, left, poses with her husband Rene Angelil, pose as they arrive for the premiere of the film "Celine: Through the Eyes of the World" in Miami Beach, Fla.

NEW YORK (AP)—Celine Dion has given birth to twin boys, finally realizing her dream of being a mother again after a long struggle to become pregnant.

A statement released by St. Mary's Medical Center in West Palm Beach, Fla., said that the 42-year-old superstar singer delivered the boys Saturday afternoon. One boy weighed 5 pounds, 10 ounces, while the other weighed 5 pounds, 4 ounces. No names have been announced.

Dion and her husband-manager, Rene Angelil, are already the parents of one son, 9-year-old Rene Charles. But Dion had long wanted to have more children, and, like with her first child, she had difficulty becoming pregnant. She has spoken openly about her struggles, undergoing several rounds of in-vitro fertilization.

Last year, after information leaked that she was pregnant, she confirmed the news, only to learn that the in vitro procedure was not successful. She had to issue a reversal weeks later.

In an interview earlier this year, Dion said she hoped that by publicly sharing her struggle, she could help others.

"If I help people through my voice, through my interviews, through what I go through, I do not want to change that at all," she said. "I think it's making a difference."

The boys came a month early. Dion was due to deliver next month, but earlier this week, it was announced that she was hospitalized as a precaution to make sure she was near her doctors as she prepared to give birth.

Dion, a five-time Grammy winner who has sold tens of millions of albums, announced earlier this year that she would be returning to Las Vegas for a three-year run at Caesar's Palace. She had a hugely successful five-year run in Las Vegas that ended in 2007.

Big expense of a big wedding gives bride's parents pause

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: Our daughter "Joy" is 20. Her boyfriend, "Danny," is 22. They plan to be married once they graduate from college. Danny is a wonderful young man who loves our daughter very much.

Danny's parents have an expensive home, two new cars, a boat and a vacation home. They do not help their son financially—even with college. Danny works full time, attends school full time and pays all of his expenses. What concerns me is that he has a car payment, a school loan and is using a credit card to buy an engagement ring for Joy.

Joy and Danny would like a big, expensive wedding. Although we would like to do that for our daughter, we are reluctant about spending so much for a wedding, knowing that afterward they will have to pay off all of Danny's bills. Should we voice our concerns to our daughter or keep our mouths shut? We don't want to start out as bad in-laws.

LOVING DAD IN UTAH

DEAR LOVING DAD: Your daughter's fiance appears to be a fine young man with a lot of responsibility on his shoulders. As a caring parent, by all means express your concern to both of them. And when you do, consider offering them the alternative of scaling down the wedding and using the balance of the money to retire some of his debt. I can't imagine a more considerate and loving gift than that for them.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: Please let people know how careful they need to be when referring someone, particularly for home improvement work.

I hired a man to do some repairs in my home. Before the job was completed, I was telling others what a great deal I got and handing out his contact information to people I didn't know well.

Abby, the man turned out to be a fraud, and have I ever learned my lesson. Please warn your readers not to refer anyone until they have been thoroughly checked out, the work has been completed and enough time has gone by to ensure there were no hidden problems with the person's work. In these times when so many people are trying to save where they can, there are crooks just waiting to prey on another victim.

I am sorry now because I can't contact these people to warn them not to do business with the man, and I'm afraid I have been instrumental in their being conned.

TRULY REGRETFUL IN MASSACHUSETTS

DEAR REGRETFUL: I'm sorry you were taken advantage of, but pleased to have the opportunity to remind readers they should be careful about making recommendations until they are certain they can vouch for the person's ability and integrity. Anyone investing in home improvements should insist the person has good references and is licensed and insured.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: I have been dating a wonderful man who is a widower. Our question is this: When a couple divorces, the two refer to each other as their "ex." But because his wife died, how should she be referred to? It doesn't seem right to call her his ex.

CURIOUS IN PALM SPRINGS

DEAR CURIOUS: With anyone who does not already know that your friend is a widower, she should be referred to as "his late wife."

■■■

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

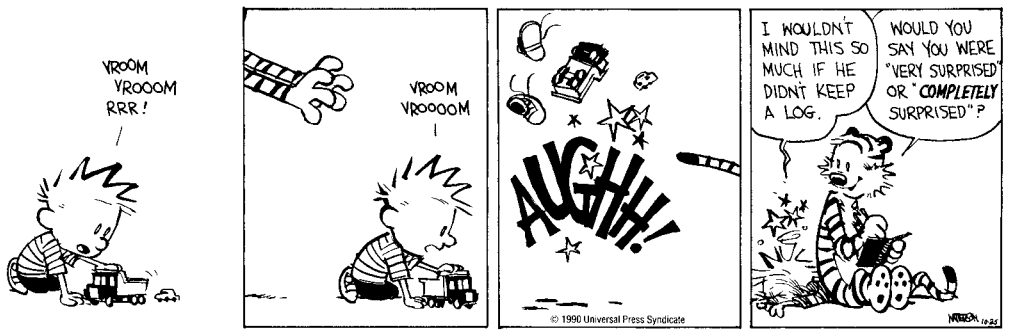
■■■

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable – and most frequently requested – poems and essays, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

Pastimes

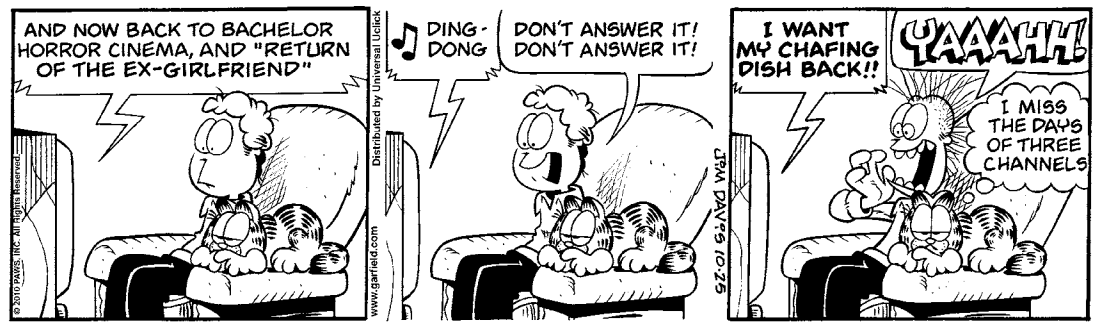
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


VROOM VROOOM RRR!
VROOM VROOOOM
AUGHH!
© 1990 Universal Press Syndicate
I WOULDN'T MIND THIS SO MUCH IF HE DIDN'T KEEP A LOG.
WOULD YOU SAY YOU WERE "VERY SURPRISED" OR "COMPLETELY SURPRISED"?

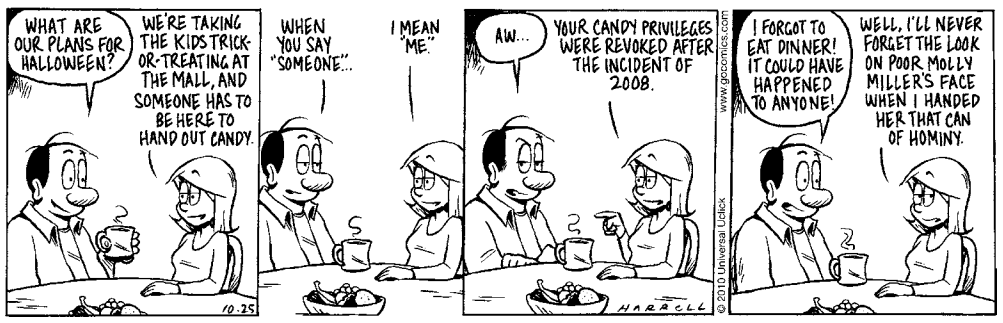
Garfield®

By Jim Davis


AND NOW BACK TO BACHELOR HORROR CINEMA, AND "RETURN OF THE EX-GIRLFRIEND"
DING-DONG
DON'T ANSWER IT! DON'T ANSWER IT!
I WANT MY CHAFING DISH BACK!!
YAAAHH!
I MISS THE DAYS OF THREE CHANNELS
JIM DAVIS 10-25
Distributed by Universal Uclick
www.garfield.com

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


WHAT ARE OUR PLANS FOR HALLOWEEN?
WE'RE TAKING THE KIDS TRICK-OR-TREATING AT THE MALL, AND SOMEONE HAS TO BE HERE TO HAND OUT CANDY.
WHEN YOU SAY "SOMEONE"...
I MEAN "ME."
AW...
YOUR CANDY PRIVILEGES WERE REVOKED AFTER THE INCIDENT OF 2008.
I FORGOT TO EAT DINNER! IT COULD HAVE HAPPENED TO ANYONE!
WELL, I'LL NEVER FORGET THE LOOK ON POOR MOLLY MILLER'S FACE WHEN I HANDED HER THAT CAN OF HOMINY.
10-25
HARRELL
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www.gocomics.com

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Burden
5 "— a real nowhere man, ..."
8 Call partner
12 Irritating
14 Christmas
15 Tricycle's kin
16 Black and white
17 Father
18 Motorcycle sounds
20 Burn with steam
23 Mythical man-goat
24 Sea eagle
25 "Who cares?"
28 Humor
29 Unable to escape
30 Suitcase
32 "Sesame Street" resident
34 Relinquish
35 Risque
36 Lecherous fellow
37 Comment
40 Spring mo.
41 Portent
42 New York City
47 Autograph
48 Church recitation
49 Remain
50 A Kennedy brother
51 Missing

DOWN
1 Science workshop
2 Sapporo sash
3 S.A. nation
4 Waste time
5 Didn't waste time
6 Previous night
7 Having a woven edge
8 Past
9 Continental money
10 No blabbermouth
11 Jailer's janglers
13 Roe provider
19 "The 40 Year Old Virgin" actor Paul
20 Stitch
21 Home, slangily
22 Opposed
23 Inflamed
25 Insult
26 Help hoods
27 "— and the Tramp"
29 Ski-lift type
31 Eur. country
33 "Beverly Hillbillies" role
34 Wrist-related
36 Unwanted e-mail
37 Colonial flagmaker
38 Send forth
39 Humongous
40 Old
43 "— Got a Secret"
44 Expert
45 Fleur-de- —
46 Dine

Solution time: 24 mins.

C	H	I	C	■	I	N	F	O	■	A	B	E
L	O	D	E	■	N	O	L	L	■	U	L	T
A	P	E	R	■	L	O	A	D	■	T	E	A
W	I	S	E	■	A	N	I	■	C	O	W	L
■	■	■	B	O	W	■	R	U	E	■	■	■
E	I	D	E	R	S	■	S	H	R	E	D	S
S	C	O	L	D	■	■	H	E	L	I	O	■
P	E	G	L	E	G	■	P	U	M	M	E	L
■	■	■	U	R	L	■	O	H	O	■	■	■
W	O	R	M	■	O	W	L	■	N	E	R	D
A	V	E	■	S	W	A	Y	■	I	D	E	A
D	U	D	■	K	E	L	P	■	A	G	A	R
E	M	S	■	I	R	E	S	■	L	Y	R	E

Saturday's answer 10-25

1	2	3	4	■	5	6	7	■	8	9	10	11
12				13				■	14			
15								■	16			
■	■	■	17			■	18	19				
20	21	22			■	23				■	■	■
24				■	25					26	27	■
28			■	29					■	30		31
■	32		33					■	34			
■	■	■	35				■	36				
37	38	39				■	40			■	■	■
41				■	42	43				44	45	46
47				■	48							
49				■	50			■	51			

STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Will Harris, 24; Katy Perry, 26; Tracy Nelson, 47; Nancy Cartwright, 53

Happy Birthday: Change is heading your way and, with a positive outlook, you can turn what has not worked for you in the past into something tangible. Strive for continuity and perfection, and you will overcome anything that has been slowing you down. You will be able to turn obstacles into opportunities. Your numbers are 7, 10, 14, 25, 27, 30, 43

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Take a close look at relationships and decide which are worth your while and which are not. It's time to shake things up in your world. You've been stagnating for too long because of the responsibilities you've taken on. ✪✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Giving your all to a project will come across in the results you get and will make a positive impression. Show your capabilities and don't be afraid to brag a little. Your charm will shine through. Love is in the stars. ✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): OK, so your emotions are difficult to control and it makes you want to do things impulsively. Stop and think before you say or do something you may regret. Avoid making promises just to keep the peace. ✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): You can make professional changes that will ensure your financial security and ease your stress. You may not like to leap from one thing to another but this time you cannot lose by making a move. Love is enhanced. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Personal problems will play havoc with your productivity and professional goals. You have to separate your home life from your work in order to maintain what you have worked so hard to acquire. Deception and disillusionment are apparent. ✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Property purchases or sales will help to set you up for financial success. The power is in your ability to do things according to plan, adding your own touch and perfecting what others have done in the past. Your concern and extra attention will win you advancement. ✪✪✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): You may be inclined to spend due to emotional reasons. Put things in perspective and realize that purchases are only a short-term fix. Focus on earning more, spending less and getting a handle on the financial stress you are feeling. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Don't worry so much about what others are doing or bragging about. It's what you do that counts, so stop comparing and concentrate on your own abilities and future. Recognize where it is you must put your time and effort. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Look at your future and figure out a way to secure your position. Emotions are running high and the probability of someone trying to push you in a direction you don't want to follow will leave you feeling threatened and in need of a change of scenery. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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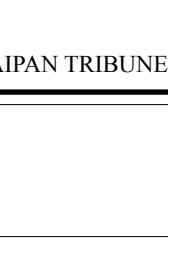

CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Don't hold back, waiting to see what everyone around you is going to do. Be a leader. This is a great time to push for advancement and to make alterations that ensure a stable home and work environment. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Proceed with caution. You can work toward bringing in more money if you set your mind to it and you don't get overwhelmed. You have what it takes but you must start to believe in what you are capable of doing. Opportunity knocks. ✪✪✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Gather the information you require to formulate a good deal and make a profit in doing so. Property investments look positive and can lead to greater financial freedom. A partnership can be beneficial personally and professionally. ✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are courageous and spontaneous. You love a challenge and are charismatic, mysterious and unique.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations,* ***myspace.com/eugenialast*** *for Eugenia's blog,* ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

7			1		5			4
	4	1				6	5	
	6		4		8		7	
1		4				2		3
				1				
8		2				7		5
	8		3		1		2	
	5	3				4	9	
9			2		4			6

Difficulty Level ★ 10/25

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Saturday's SUDOKU Answer

1	3	4	7	5	8	9	6	2
6	7	5	9	2	1	4	3	8
2	8	9	4	6	3	1	7	5
5	6	7	8	3	4	2	1	9
8	9	1	6	7	2	3	5	4
4	2	3	1	9	5	7	8	6
7	5	2	3	4	6	8	9	1
9	4	8	5	1	7	6	2	3
3	1	6	2	8	9	5	4	7

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 10/23

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

WATCH WHAT YOU EAT **Solution: 6 letters**

S	S	H	C	R	A	E	S	E	R	O	T	C	O	D
U	P	S	D	H	C	H	I	L	D	R	E	N	E	E
P	I	U	E	D	A	I	L	Y	A	R	E	D	R	V
P	N	W	C	N	I	R	O	N	E	R	N	Z	E	E
L	A	E	N	A	T	F	T	A	B	E	E	I	Q	L
E	C	L	A	R	R	I	L	I	M	C	U	N	U	O
M	H	L	L	P	E	R	F	M	E	A	L	C	I	P
E	T	N	A	D	I	X	O	I	T	N	A	S	R	M
N	W	E	B	H	I	C	P	T	H	S	P	O	E	E
T	O	S	S	K	E	G	K	I	S	C	P	Y	M	N
S	R	S	A	R	L	R	E	Y	R	E	R	A	E	T
A	G	T	E	I	D	I	B	S	R	Y	O	A	N	S
E	R	T	P	S	N	I	M	A	T	I	V	I	T	T
Y	A	S	N	I	A	R	G	E	L	S	E	U	S	S
W	M	S	E	C	R	U	O	S	E	G	N	A	R	O

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Antioxidant, Approve, Balanced, Cans, Carrots, Cereal, Chart, Children, Cups, Daily, Development, Diet, Digest, Doctor, Expiry, Fibre, Fitness, Gels, Grains, Gram, Growth, Herbal, Iron, Meal, Milk, Mineral, Nuts, Oranges, Peas, Picky, Proper, Recommended, Requirements, Research, Source, Soya, Spinach, Starch, Supplements, Vitamins, Water, Wellness, Yeast, Zinc

Last Saturday's Answer: Little People

To order THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volume 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30 and 31 send $5.95 each (US funds only) payable to Universal Uclick plus $3 postage for the first book order, $1 p&h for each additional book. Send to WONDERWORD, 1130 Walnut St., Kansas City, Mo. 64106 or call toll-free, 1-800-642-6480. Order online at upuzzles.com.

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Fina Sisu Apt., 2-BR, 1-BTH, FF, AC, BU Genset/ 24-hr water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. Right behind NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted. Special rates for NMC faculty/ students. Call 235-6527/8 or 285-1317 for info.

Ocean View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Night-time security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

Sunset View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Night-time security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

HILLTOP APARTMENTS Ready move in 1&2 BR w/ own BTH in each room. Beautiful view Lao-Lao Bay. Plenty of breeze. All units feature a private view balcony & fully furnished. Across Stanford Hotel. 24HR Wtr, night-time security, common laundry, typhoon shutters, on-call maintenance, generator, ample parking & swimming pool. Call 285-1317.

FOR LEASE - RESIDENTIAL

4 bedroom, 2 bathroom house and lot for lease. Located in Beach Road, Garapan. Call 285-0018

AUTOMOTIVE

'05 Nissan Armada. Excellent cond. (orange accent color), 49k miles. Automatic, fully loaded & priced below blue book. Asking $14K neg. Call 285-1317

"My wish is to have my own PC with a DVD player and CD burner!"

22 years of making wishes of eligible children with life-threatening illnesses come true!

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Fax: (671) 646-6293
Email: mawfguam@ite.net
www.wish.org
Office Hours: 8:30am to 5:30pm, M-F daily

Saipan Tribune

QQ RENT A CAR
Starting as low as... **$25.00** without Insurance
Call: 233-9889, 483-8866 or 233-8866
$100 Security Deposit Required
Please visit QQ Store Garapan (2nd Road behind Fire Station)
Some conditions may apply

WHATZIT Solution: Walk on eggs

LOST PASSPORT

NAME	:	YU, SHENGXIANG
PASSPORT #	:	G36181583
DATE OF ISSUE	:	JULY 23, 2009
EXPIRATION DATE	:	JULY 22, 2019

PLEASE CALL 285-7338

Nanny Needed Immediately

Monday to Friday, 12:00pm to 6:00pm

Permanent service and non live-in preferred.

English speaking, other languages is acceptable, but must be able to speak fluent english and have good communication skills with children.

Car provided for work & for personal use. $800 weekly.

Interested applicant must email Debby for more details at: **jclarkltd@google.com**

EXECUTIVE HOME FOR SALE

- Private, quiet, convenient, Capitol Hill location
- Like new, 5-bedroom, 4-bathroom
- 2,100 sq ft, 2-story
- Great ocean and mountain views
- Separate garage with Guest quarters
- Huge wrap-around deck with cool breezes

- Energy-efficient central air conditioning
- Jacuzzi spa, major appliances, Corian counter tops
- UV Water treatment system
- Ready for solar or wind generator

- Paved road access – No four wheel needed!
- Secluded child-friendly neighborhood

- Beautiful orchids, heliconia and torch ginger
- Large backyard and play areas
- Mature fruit trees, avocado, mango, soursap, guava

- Appraised at $268,000
- Offered at $219,000, neg.
- Available October 1, 2010
- Contact: richard.brostrom@gmail.com

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

REFRIGERATION AND AIR-CON TECHNICIAN

- Experience in maintaining Industrial Freezer, Water Dispenser and Air-conditioning
- Flexible hour schedule: Monday to Sunday
- With CNMI Driver's License

DRIVER/SALESMAN

- Experience in 5 gallons Bottle Drinking Water Delivery
- With CNMI Driver's License
- Flexible hour schedule: Monday to Sunday

Interested applicants may bring their resume and a 2" x 2" photo to The Water Company's office, Industrial Park, Lower Base. (No phone call please)

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 6-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as $27 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$15	$27
• 5-Liner	$24	$39
• 3-Liner with picture	$24	$42
• 5-Liner with picture	$36	$57

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:
- All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

COMMONWEALTH GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES CREDIT UNION, Plaintiff, -v- MARIANO S. NAPUTI, Defendant. — CIVIL ACTION NO. 05-382 — FIFTH AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on November 3, 2006, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendants in and to the following property: Lot No. 002 G 334, situated in Kagman II, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 929 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 002 G 08, the original of which was recorded May 14, 1990, as Document No. 90-1905, at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office, Saipan.

Date, Time and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, December 3, 2010 at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 15th day of October, 2010.

/s/ Michael A. White, Auctioneer

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

CITY TRUST BANK, Plaintiff, -v- DANIEL JOSEPH M. CABRERA and MAGDALENA S. CABRERA, Defendants. — CIVIL ACTION NO. 06-0054 — FIFTH AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on September 19, 2008, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendants in and to the following property: (a) Lot No. 005 1 180, situated in Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 005 1 02, the original of which was recorded March 11, 1983, as Document No. 16707, at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office, Saipan; and (b) Tract No. 225840-1-1, located in Chalan Kanoa, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, as more particularly described on DLS Check No. 2119/92, deeded to Daniel Muna Cabrera on August 24, 1998, and recorded as File No. 99-2096 on September 3, 1999.

Dae, Time and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, December 3, 2010 at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 15th day of October, 2010.

/s/ Michael A. White, Auctioneer

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

THE FINANCIAL & INSURANCE SERVICES GROUP, INC., Plaintiff, -v- RAMON P. AGULTO and DALIA R. AGULTO, Defendants. — CIVIL ACTION NO. 09-0338 — FIRST AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on June 16, 2010, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendants in and to the following property: Lot No. 001 G 32, situated in Kagman, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 001 G 02, the original of which was recorded March 20, 1986, as Document No. 86-0513, at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office, Saipan, and also recorded on February 16, 1989, ad Document No. 89-511, at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office, Saipan, the description therein being incorporated herein by this reference.

Date, Time and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, December 3, 2010 at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 15th day of October, 2010.

/s/ Michael A. White, Auctioneer

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

CITY TRUST BANK, Plaintiff, -v- JUAN R. SABLAN and ANGELINE F. SABLAN, Defendants. — CIVIL ACTION NO. 97-1054 — FIFTH AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that, pursuant to an an Order issued by the Court in this matter on November 10, 2008, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendants in and to the following property: Real property situated in Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, designated as Lot E.A. 839 NEW-6-3, containing an area of 1,329 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. E.A. 839 NEW.

Date, Time and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, December 3, 2010 at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 15th day of October, 2010.

/s/ Michael A. White, Auctioneer

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Giants eliminate Phillies to win NL pennant

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—Nothing came easy for the San Francisco Giants this season, not even the postseason.

It doesn't matter now. They're in the World Series.

Juan Uribe hit a tiebreaking homer off Ryan Madson with two outs in the eighth inning and the Giants held off the Philadelphia Phillies 3-2 Saturday night in Game 6 of the NL championship series.

"I'm speechless, just breathless," Giants general manager Brian Sabean said. "It's a great opportunity to see what we can do on a bigger stage."

Unlikely MVP Cody Ross and the pitching-rich Giants reached the World Series for the first time since 2002 and will host the Texas Rangers in Game 1 on Wednesday night.

The Giants, who didn't clinch a playoff spot until the final day of the regular season, will try for their first championship since moving to San Francisco in 1958.

Slumping Phillies slugger Ryan Howard looked at a called third strike - a 90 mph slider at the knees - with runners on first and second to end it. San Francisco closer Brian Wilson got the final five outs, finishing off the Phillies' bid to become the first NL team in 66 years to win three straight pennants.

"Right now it's heaven, but it was torture for that final strike," Giants first baseman Aubrey Huff said.

Giants ace Tim Lincecum struggled in the eighth inning, pitching in relief on one day of rest after losing Game 5. But Wilson took over and got Carlos Ruiz to lineout to Huff for an inning-ending double play in the eighth.

Benches cleared in the third inning after Giants starter Jonathan Sanchez hit Chase Utley with a pitch and then yelled at the All-Star second baseman for tossing the ball back toward the mound on his way to first base.

No punches were thrown and nobody was ejected, though Sanchez was pulled. San Francisco used six pitchers, including four lefties.

"We fought, we scratched and clawed," said Giants left fielder Pat Burrell, who won a championship ring with the Phillies in 2008. "I don't know how we did it but we did it."

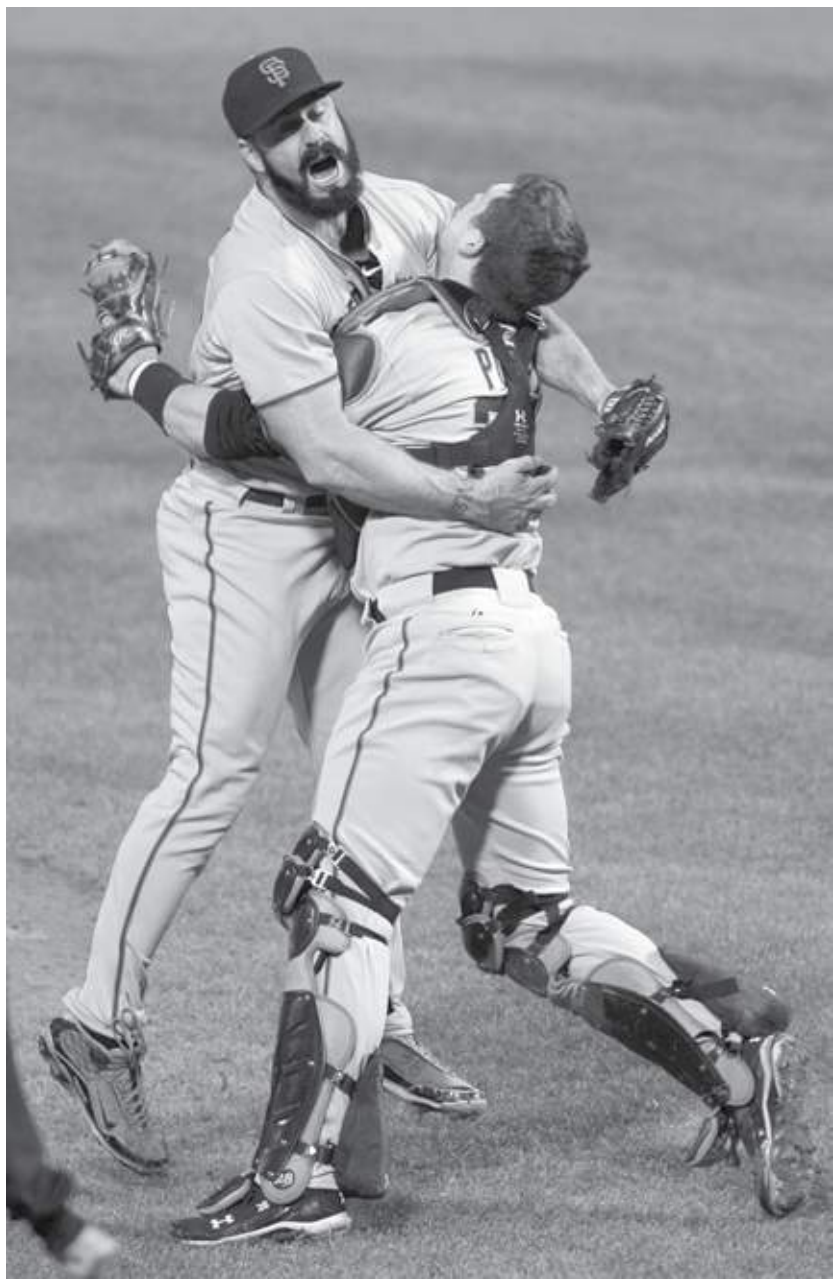
The Giants are seeking their first World Series title since 1954 when they were still in New York. Led by Barry Bonds, they came within six outs of winning it in Game 6 against the wild-card Angels in 2002 only to lose in the deciding seventh game.

It's been quite a wait for a franchise that moved West in 1958. Even with Hall of Famers Willie Mays, Orlando Cepeda, Willie McCovey, Juan Marichal and Gaylord Perry, the Giants couldn't bring a title to the Bay Area.

Now it's up to the Freak, Kung Fu Panda, Pat the Bat, an eccentric closer with a bushy beard that's dyed black, a journeyman outfielder who aspired to be a rodeo clown, and a rookie named Buster.

Those are nicknames that would make the Say Hey Kid, the Baby Bull and Stretch proud.

"We had such a diversity of contributions from everybody," Giants manager Bruce Bochy said. "Not bad for a bunch of castoffs and misfits."



San Francisco Giants relief pitcher Brian Wilson celebrates with catcher Buster Posey after the ninth inning of Game 6 of baseball's National League Championship Series against the Philadelphia Phillies Saturday, Oct. 23, 2010, in Philadelphia. The Giants won, 3-2, to win the series and advance to the World Series against the Texas Rangers. AP

The Giants overcame a 2-0 first-inning deficit, tied it in the third and went ahead when Uribe hit an opposite-field drive that barely cleared the right-field wall.

Uribe hit a game-ending sacrifice fly off Roy Oswalt to give the Giants a 3-1 series lead in Game 4.

Roy Halladay outdueled Lincecum in Game 5 to send the series back to Philadelphia, where a frenetic, towel-waving crowd—the 136th straight sellout at Citizens Bank Park—wasn't ready for "Red October III" to end.

But the Phillies are going home early after leading the majors in wins for the first time in franchise history.

"We've got a bright future," Phillies manager Charlie Manuel said. "They've got a better offense than people think and they're scrappy."

Wilson came in after Lincecum allowed consecutive, one-out singles. He got Ruiz on a liner to escape the inning.

Wilson had to bat in the ninth after Brad Lidge intentionally walked Buster Posey to load the bases. He took three pitches before bouncing out to first base.

"You can't say enough about Wilson coming in, doing what he's been doing all year," Burrell said.

Oswalt pitched six effective innings, masterfully working out of trouble throughout the game because he allowed nine hits and hit a batter. Oswalt gave up two runs—one earned—three days after losing Game 4 in relief. The three-time All-Star righty—the 2005 NLCS MVP with Houston—threw eight superb innings to earn the win in Game 2.

Sanchez lasted just two-plus innings, allowing two runs and three hits. Sanchez, the Game 2 loser, had dominated the Phillies before this series, not allowing more than four hits in his five previous starts against them.

Rookie Madison Bumgarner, a 21-year-old lefty who started Game 4 and pitched the NLDS clincher Oct. 11 at Atlanta, pitched two scoreless innings in relief on two days' rest.

Bumgarner pitched out of a bases-loaded jam in the fifth, retiring Shane Victorino on a bouncer to the mound to end the inning. He escaped trouble in the sixth after Raul Ibanez doubled and was sacrificed to third. Bumgarner struck out pinch-hitter Ben Francisco looking and retired Jimmy Rollins on a fly to center.

The Phillies jumped ahead 2-0 in the first on a RBI double by the slumping Utley and Jayson Werth's sacrifice fly.

Placido Polanco drew a one-out walk and scored on Utley's liner to right. Utley came in hitting .200 (6 for 30) in the postseason. Howard followed with a single. Utley scored on Werth's fly to deep left.

Sanchez sparked a two-run rally by leading off the third with a sharp single past Utley's glove. Andres Torres then hit a deep drive that center fielder Victorino ran down on the warning track and nearly made a sensational over-the-shoulder catch. But the ball bounced out of his glove and Torres got a 400-foot single.

After Freddy Sanchez sacrificed, Huff singled up the middle. Sanchez scored, but Victorino nailed Torres at the plate with a strong one-hop throw. Huff advanced to second on the throw, and scored the tying run when third baseman Polanco made a throwing error to first on Posey's slow roller after a nice barehanded pickup.

Despite throwing a bullpen session earlier that day, Oswalt came out of the bullpen on two days' rest with the score tied in the ninth inning Wednesday night. He allowed Uribe's game-ending sacrifice fly.

So much for all the talk that he would have a tired arm, though.

Oswalt's fastball was sharp and his slow curve had a nasty bite. With two on and two out in the fifth, he blew a 94 mph fastball past cleanup hitter Buster Posey.

He fanned Burrell swinging at a 69 mph curve leading off the next inning. Oswalt was finished after getting Edgar Renteria to ground into a double play with two on in the sixth after the veteran shortstop tried "Jeter-ing" his way on. A 1-2 pitch hit Renteria's bat on a checked swing, but he jumped up and shook his hand, pretending the ball hit him. Plate umpire Tom Hallion didn't buy it, and Oswalt smirked and shook his head. Yankees captain Derek Jeter sold an umpire on that exact move earlier this season.

After changes, Rangers headed to first World Series

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP)—Cliff Lee gets to pitch in an even bigger game for the AL champion Texas Rangers with the New York Yankees out of the way.

The ace left-hander didn't have to beat the defending champions again to put Texas in its first World Series, so the Rangers' prized midseason acquisition is set to start Game 1 on the biggest stage Wednesday in San Franciso against the NL champion Giants.

Lee is no stranger to the World Series. He won Games 1 and 5 for Philadelphia over New York last fall before the Phillies traded him to Seattle the same day they acquired Roy Hallada—the Phillies were eliminated by the Giants on Saturday night.

But the Rangers are newcomers, making the Fall Classic in the franchise's 50th season despite plenty of unexpected pitching changes along the way.

"We all started having a certain feeling at some point in time. They just kept fighting back and fighting back, and we started believing in them," said Rangers icon Nolan Ryan, the team president and part-owner. "They were determined to get it done."

While Lee was pitching for another AL West team at the start of the season, Scott Feldman and Rich Harden, the big addition last winter, topped the Texas rotation. Frank Francisco was expected to be the closer.

While none of that trio is pitching this fall, the team that used to never have enough pitching is going to the World Series.

The Rangers clinched their first AL pennant with a 6-1 victory over the Yankees in Game 6 of the AL championship series Friday night before a frenzied crowd of 51,404 at Rangers Ballpark—in the shadow of Cowboys Stadium, where the attention is usually focused in the fall.

Colby Lewis dominated over eight innings, winning for the second time in the series, before Neftali Feliz closed it out.

"This group of guys, I can't say enough. It's a great feeling," said Lee, who was ready to pitch Game 7 if needed, after a 13-strikeout performance against the Yankees in Game 3. "With this group of guys, if we keep playing the way we have, things are going to work out."

The Rangers dismissed the 27-time champion Bronx Bombers much the same way New York had knocked them out of the playoffs their previous three appearances in the second half of the 1990s.

There was little drama. Texas outscoring the Yankees 38-19, and all four wins were by at least five runs.

"My team never once thought that game was in hand, especially when you play a team like the New York Yankees," fourth-year manager Ron Washington said. "We knew we had to get 27 (outs). We knew we had to keep putting the pressure on. We knew we had to keep playing baseball, and they certainly did that."

The Rangers had never won a postseason series or even a home playoff game before this season. They took longer than any other club to get to the World Series for the first time. Montreal/Washington (42 seasons) and Seattle (34) haven't yet made it.

This was only the 17th winning record in 39 seasons since moving to Texas after the franchise started as the expansion Washington Senators in 1961.

The Rangers already led the AL West by 5 1/2 games when they acquired Lee on July 9. They took over first place for good on June 8, a day after a loss to Lee and the Mariners.

"We were doing all of the things good teams do to win," said Hamilton, the ALCS MVP. "Playing small ball, power, playing defense, pitching well, all of these things. And we saw how it could work if we did all of those things and how good we could be."

"At that point, I think we started really believing in ourselves and believing that we were better than everybody else," he said.

Hamilton hit four home runs in the AL championship series and was intentionally walked five times, three in the clinching game.

"Well, he's a difference maker, and I always talk to Josh about presence," Washington said. "His presence in our lineup makes everyone else better. ... Josh didn't get a chance to swing the bat; Vlad did; Cruz did, and we put some runs on the board."

Right after Hamilton was given a free pass in the fifth inning Friday night, Vladimir Guerrero hit a two-run single. Nelson Cruz followed with a homer for a 5-1 lead.

Stackhouse signs with Miami Heat

MIAMI (AP)—Once denied a championship by Miami, Jerry Stackhouse is resuming his chase of a title with the Heat.

Stackhouse joined the Heat on Saturday, one day after the NBA championship hopefuls learned that they'll be without injured swingman Mike Miller until possibly January. Stackhouse, who turns 36 next month, averaged 8.5 points in 42 games as a reserve with the Milwaukee Bucks last season.

"This is a very exciting time in my basketball career," said Stackhouse, a two-time All-Star who's now with his sixth NBA club and worked out with the Heat on Saturday, the same day Dwyane Wade returned to full work with the team for the first time since straining his right hamstring on Oct. 5.

"I am ready to compete at the highest level," Stackhouse said.

Stackhouse often said during the summer that he wanted a chance to join LeBron James, Wade and Chris Bosh in Miami, believing it would give him the best chance at winning his first NBA title.

Stackhouse was with the Mavericks when Wade carried Miami to the 2006 title in six games.

That was the series when Stackhouse became a bit of a villain in Miami, after he leveled Shaquille O'Neal in Game 4 and was forced by the NBA to sit out the next game. Wade jumped in O'Neal's way after the play to keep him from retaliating, but on Saturday, the MVP of those finals welcomed his newest teammate.

"He's a very productive player," Wade said Saturday, about an hour before Stackhouse completed the process of going through physicals and actually signing his deal. "He's a guy who's a matchup problem in the post. Also, he can stretch the floor, shoot the ball very well. It's a good option ... to be able to have the luxury of a guy like that out there that you can add to your team."

So in an offseason replete with huge moves by Miami—keeping Wade and Udonis Haslem, then adding James, Bosh, Miller and others—the Heat used the final weekend before Tuesday's regular-season opener to add one more All-Star name in Stackhouse.

He'll practice in Miami for the first time during what's expected to be a full-contact session on Sunday, then accompany the team to Boston on Monday afternoon.

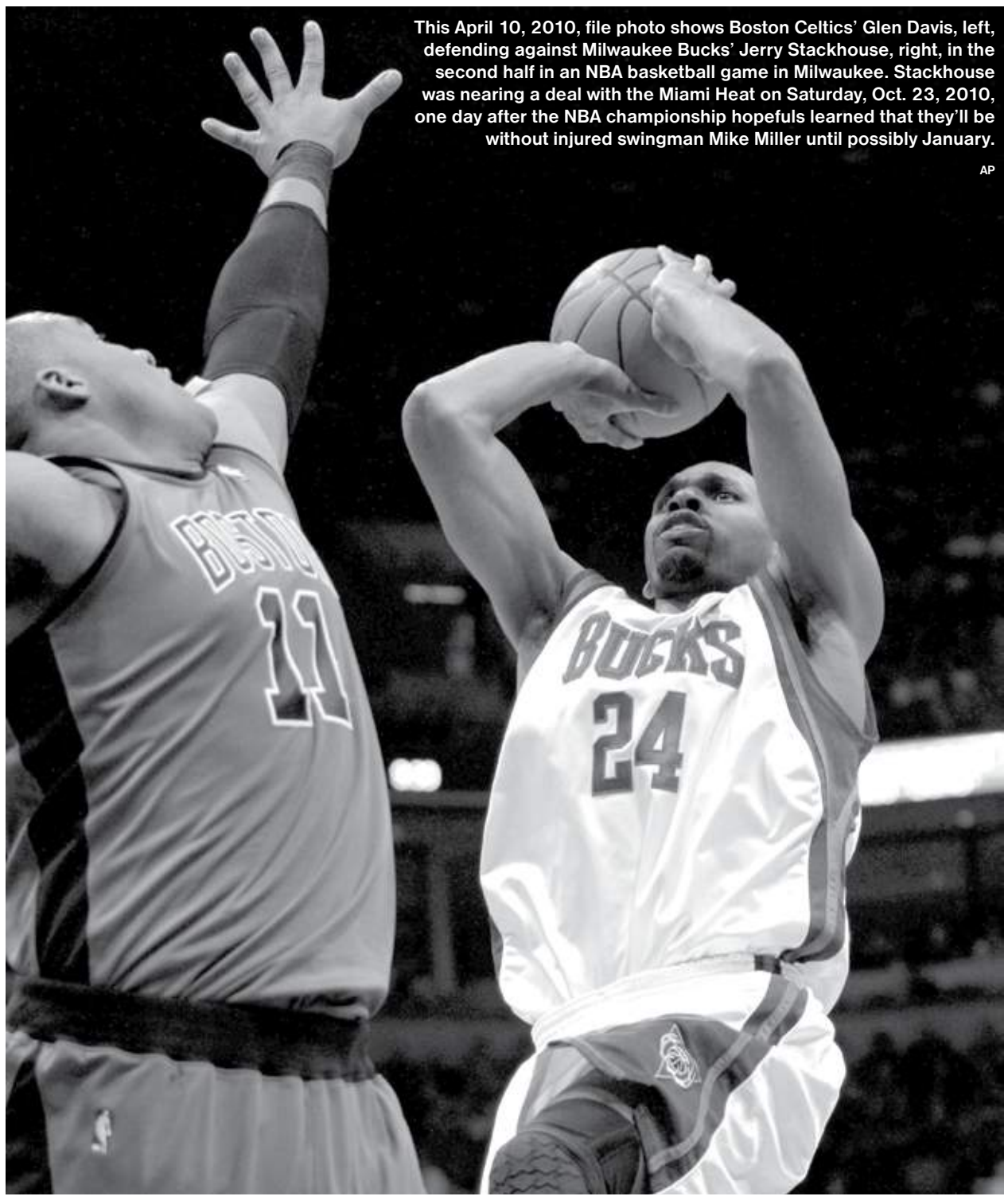
"He's a proven guy, a proven in this league," James said. "A guy that can score, if he's in the starting lineup or even if he's coming off the bench."

Miami's roster is now at 17, meaning two moves will need to be made before getting down to the league-mandated total of 15.

Miller is recovering from a broken right thumb as well as ligament damage, hurting his shooting hand in a freak accident at practice Wednesday when he got tangled in a teammate's jersey during a post drill. He had surgery Friday, will remain in a cast for four weeks, then in a brace for a few more weeks, and the Heat don't expect him back on the court before January.

"Right now, we're short at that position, obviously, with Mike out," Heat coach Erik Spoelstra said. "We have James (Jones) really coming off the bench with size, and really that's it."

Stackhouse started with Philadelphia in 1995, and has also played with Detroit, Washington, Dallas and Milwaukee. He's a career 18.0 point-per-game scorer, though hasn't averaged more than 13.0 points in a season since 2004-05.



This April 10, 2010, file photo shows Boston Celtics' Glen Davis, left, defending against Milwaukee Bucks' Jerry Stackhouse, right, in the second half in an NBA basketball game in Milwaukee. Stackhouse was nearing a deal with the Miami Heat on Saturday, Oct. 23, 2010, one day after the NBA championship hopefuls learned that they'll be without injured swingman Mike Miller until possibly January.

AP

Manager says Favre called Sterger last year

NEW YORK (AP)—A spokesman for the woman who allegedly received lewd photos and inappropriate text messages from Brett Favre two years ago said Saturday the quarterback tried to contact the former New York Jets game hostess in 2009.

Phil Reese, Jenn Sterger's manager, told The Associated Press that Favre called Sterger last June. Reese declined comment when asked if there were multiple calls, but said Sterger did not answer the phone.

The New York Post first reported the June 2009 call, citing an unidentified source.

The NFL is investigating the allegations against Favre and is attempting to speak with Sterger, who hasn't decided yet whether she will talk to the league.

"We have an ongoing dialogue with the NFL," Reese said. "What we've been talking about is having Jenn come in. Like I have said, she is strongly considering it. Ultimately this decision is hers and hers alone."

Reese also said Saturday there has been no discussion "of any kind" with Favre's camp.

Now the Minnesota Vikings QB, Favre was interviewed by NFL vice president for security Milt Ahlerich on Tuesday about his alleged advances toward Sterger in 2008, when Favre played for the Jets. Neither he nor the NFL has provided details of that meeting.

"That's a league issue," Favre said this week as Minnesota prepared to play Green Bay, "that I just have to leave at that."

NFL spokesman Greg Aiello said Friday the review is ongoing.

Sterger, now a TV personality for the Versus network, has not commented on the allegations, which were posted on the website, Deadspin. The site said Sterger would not agree to an interview and it paid a third party for the texts, voicemails and graphic photos, said to be of Favre, that it posted in a video.

A message was left Saturday seeking comment from Bus Cook, Favre's agent.

NFL *fines 12 more players in crackdown*

NEW YORK (AP)—The NFL fined 12 more players Saturday, mostly for unnecessary roughness in games last weekend, sending another strong message that violent conduct wouldn't be tolerated.

Minnesota defensive end Ray Edwards was fined the most, $20,000, for spearing Dallas running back Marion Barber on Sunday. Edwards was cited as a repeat offender; he was previously fined Aug. 28 for roughing the passer and Sept. 26 for unnecessary roughness.

"I just got fined $20,000 for a spear that really wasn't a spear," Edwards said. "If you look at the last play, (Dallas tackle Marc) Colombo speared Jared (Allen) and I don't believe he got fined. If you're going to fine people, fine everybody. Don't just fine defensive guys.

The league did not fine Colombo.

Earlier this week, huge fines were given for flagrant fouls by Pittsburgh's James Harrison ($75,000), Atlanta's Dunta Robinson and New England's Brandon Meriweather (both $50,000). The league also promised suspensions for players who make illegal hits on defenseless opponents. A video was sent to the 32 teams explaining what hits are considered legal and illegal.

The 15 fines were unusually high for one week, a signal of the NFL's resolve to police violent play. Generally, either a $5,000 or $10,000 fine is handed out for roughness. In this week's total all but two were for roughness. On Oct. 1 the league also issued 15 fines, 10 for roughness.

Included in the latest penalties:

■ New Orleans cornerback Malcolm Jenkins was fined $10,000 for two hits, one to the head area of Tampa Bay quarterback Josh Freeman and one out of bounds.

■ Tennessee defensive end William Hayes was fined $10,000 for a late hit, while teammate Dave Ball was given a $5,000 fine for roughing the passer with a hit to the head or neck area against Jacksonville.

■ Three Houston players were fined $5,000: guard Wade Smith for a leg whip, defensive end Adewale Ogunleye for a late hit on Kansas City quarterback Matt Cassel and safety Bernard Pollard for hitting a Chiefs player out of bounds.

■ Philadelphia quarterback Kevin Kolb was fined $5,000 for a horse-collar tackle on Atlanta's William Moore while Moore was returning an interception.

■ San Francisco safety Dashon Goldson was fined $5,000 for striking Raiders receiver Louis Murphy late.

■ Minnesota receiver Bernard Berrian was fined $5,000 for a late hit on Dallas DE Jason Hatcher.

■ Detroit guard Stephen Peterman was fined $7,500 for a late hit on Giants safety Antrel Rolle.

■ San Diego linebacker Antwan Barnes was fined $5,000 for unnecessarily striking St. Louis quarterback Sam Bradford in the chest and neck.

Harrison, who threatened to retire after the NFL's crackdown, was fined for his tackle of Browns receiver Mohamed Massaquoi, who suffered a concussion. He also had a hard hit on former college teammate Joshua Cribbs.

On Friday, Cribbs told his friend not to change the way he plays, and that Harrison's job is to simply "knock people out."

Cribbs, who played at Kent State with Harrison, believes he helped persuade Pittsburgh's big hitter not to retire

MAFEA-Ebisuya advances to masters finals

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Members of MAFEA-Ebisuya pose for a group photo after beating VisMinda-Kids Cove in the battle for the first finals berth in the masters division of the UFO caging last Saturday at the JP Center Basketball Court.

MAFEA-Ebisuya gained the first finals seat in the masters division of the 2010 United Filipino Organization Inter-Organizational Reinforced Basketball League after outclassing VisMinda-Kids Cove, 98-72, last Saturday night at the JP Center Basketball Court.

MAFEA-Ebisuya leaned on its speed advantage to beat the lethargic VisMinda in the race for the first finals ticket. The trio of Francis Rebuyon, Ernie Moises, and Banjo Basilla connected on fastbreak layups in the second half to anchor Ebisuya's breakaway.

Moises and Rebuyon knocked in eight points apiece in the first period, which ended with MAFEA ahead by nine, 20-11. VisMinda was held to 11 markers with only Jun Alipio making more than a field goal in the opening quarter. James Abuy and Jun Abedes added two points each, while Danny Bicera had only a free throw.

In the second period, things turned from bad to worse for VisMinda, as it had only Melvin Villarin and Abuy making it to the scoreboard with 10 and four, respectively.

In contrast, Rebuyon, which added six more points in the second canto, had four other teammates helping him out in giving Ebisuya a 37-25 halftime lead.

The Ebisuya advantage ballooned to 19 at the end of the third period, 64-45, as the eventual first finalist stepped on the pedal and VisMinda was too slow to catch up on defense. Basila led Ebisuya's breakaway in the third, hitting 11 markers, while Moises and Rebuyon combined for 10 points in that period.

VisMinda had the opportunity to slice the deficit in the third, but missed a bundle from the foul line, going 11-for-23 from the stripe.

Ebisuya managed to pad the lead to as much as 25 points before VisMinda had a mini run to move within 15 midway in the fourth period, 60-75.

However, that was the closest VisMinda could get, as Rebuyon and company picked up the pace of the game, anew and launched a 12-2 run to pull away again. Rebuyon did not start in the fourth canto, but when he returned he made three fastbreak layups.

Rebuyon finished with a game-high 31 points, 12 in the fourth canto. Moises chipped in 21 and also played good defense against Abuy. The VisMinda gunner had a frustrating shooting night despite finishing with 19 points. Abuy failed to make a triple in the first three periods and canned his only two treys when the game was already decided in the closing minutes of the fourth canto.

Villarin top-scored for VisMinda with 21 markers.

Despite the loss, VisMinda still has a chance to advance to the finals. A win against Cabaleb-Wings Travel in the last playoff game will earn VisMinda a rematch against Ebisuya. The Cabalen-VisMinda match was scheduled last night.

MAFEA-Ebisuya 98 – Rebuyon 31, Moises 21, Basilla 16, Vargas 12, Pascual 6, Tudela 5, Lacandazo 3, Cultura 2, Abuan 2.

VisMinda Kids Cove 72 – Villarin 21, Abuy 19, Alipio 13, Abedes 8, Pineda 3, Rangamar 3, Bicera 2, Brien 2, De la Torre 2.

Scoring by quarters: 20-11, 37-24, 64-45, 98-72.

ANDERSEN

From Page 28

Brian Sanders was the shortest at 5"10'

The Bombers' guards also displayed some brilliance outside with Sanders and Ladon Buchanan hitting a couple of treys. Completing the nine-man team were Matt Huston, Durant Gordon, James Peterson, and Louis Favela.

Peterson and Favela are the mobile forwards of the Bombers and had decent shots from mid range. The lefty Huston put on a little show in the one-sided games with his dunks. Evans also played above the team, going for two-handed slams once against the Nationals and then versus the hapless Marianas Wireless.

Bombers 91, Nationals 62

The first exhibition game was played in a bit of dim court at the NMC gym and with the Bombers assigned to the dimmer side of the court, the Nationals managed to take an 8-2 lead in the opening minutes of the first period.

However, the Bombers regrouped soon and held the Nationals to only a field goal in the remaining minutes of the opening quarter to take a 21-10 lead. It was cruise control for the visitors from thereon.

Buchanan and Evans paced the Bombers with 18 points apiece, while Peterson chipped in eight. Pete Iguel was the top-scorer for the Nationals with 15 points.

Bombers 102, Budweiser Selection 56

Over at the MHS gym, the Bombers faced the youth players-anchored Budweiser Selection and the visitors led by only 11 after the opening quarter, 29-18.

The Bombers then started using their potent artilleries—inside game and mid-range shooting—in the second period to pull away.

Peterson had 20 points for Anderson, while his five other teammates also scored in double figures.

Trevor Ogumoro and Juan Maratita nailed 13 and 12, respectively, for the Bill Sewell-coached selection.

Bombers 111, Marianas Wireless 41

The visitors saved their best for last, whipping Mariana Wireless, 111-41.

Marianas Wireless fared miserably against the Bombers, as the former was intimidated by the presence of the latter's frontliners early on. With the Bombers playing tough interior defense, Marianas Wireless tried its luck outside, but to no avail.

By the end of the first quarter, the game seemed already decided with the Bombers ahead, 34-9. Marianas Wireless tallied five quick points at the start of the second canto, but went scoreless in the next five minutes, allowing the Bombers to widen the gap farther.

By the end of the first half, the Bombers were on top by 41, 55-14. Despite its huge lead, the Gerard Barnes-coached Andersen was still merciless against Marianas Wireless with the visitors going for big blocks in the paint and fighting off screens for the latter's shooters.

Sanders led the Bombers with 26 points and Andersen drew double figures from three other players and at least eight points from three more. Kae Bernardo was the lone bright spot for Marianas Wireless and finished with 14 points. No other Marianas Wireless player made more than a field goal against the unforgiving Bombers defense.

First Game

Andersen 91 – Buchanan 18, Evans 18, Peterson 10, Jones 8, Favela 8, Sanders 6, Steele 4, Huston 2.

CNMI Nationals 62 – Iguel 15, Barcinas 9, Johnson 8, Lizama 7, Sablan 5, Villacrusis 5, Mendiola 3.

Scoring by quarters: 21-10, 48-21, 67-39, 91-62.

Second Game

Andersen 102 – Peterson 20, Huston 15, Gordon 12, Buchanan 12, Evans 12, Jones 10, Favela 8, Sanders 7, Steele 2.

Budweiser Selection 56 – Ogumoro 13, Maratita 12, Joyner 8, Talalemotu 8, Ichihara 4, Matagolai 4, Lisua 2.

Scoring by quarters: 29-18, 52-35, 70-44, 102-56.

Third Game

Andersen 111 – Sanders 26, Evans 18, Peterson 17, Buchanan 10, Huston 9, Jones 9, Gordon 8, Favela 5, Steele 4.

Marianas Wireless 41– Bernardo 14, Yabut 9, Tamayo 3, Guiab 3, Aquino 3, Galarse 3, Abuel 2, Esdrelon 2, Barbo 2.

Scoring by quarters: 34-9, 55-14, 78-24, 111-41.

BLACK

From Page 28

in the ensuing weekends to determine the winner of the head-to-head matchups.

Black Hawks 8, Royale Blue 1

Only one game has yet to be played in the Black Hawks-Royale Blue pairing thus the former had already secured the victory.

Delivering the wins for Black Hawks were Oh Imbog, Edwin Montoya, Merlie Savellano, Annette Quiambao, Angie Ito, Cristy Villaflor, Edwin Maratas, Alvin Alvarez.

The remaining game in this pairing will feature the tandem of Black Hawks' Ito and Rey Bulaon against the duo of Macoi Aguda and Annarose Omori.

Red Hot 6, Green Bucks 4

Red Hot Chili Shuttlers won one of the two completed games over the weekend, edging Green Bucks, 6-4.

Red Hot prevailed in three singles and three doubles games, while Green Bucks claimed two wins both in doubles and singles competitions.

Pink Dynamites 5, Orange 5

The second completed game in the weekend between Pink Dynamites and Orange Shuttle Masters resulted in a tie, 5-5.

This match was too even, as Pink Dynamites and Orange recorded four wins apiece in doubles and one victory each in singles.

Royale Blue 4, Red Hot 0

In the Royale Blue-Red Hot pairing, the former went up, 4-0.

Royale Blue won the first three matches of the day (two doubles and one singles) and then added another singles victory to gain momentum in the pairing. Royale Blue will need only two wins to secure the match.

Yellow Idols 3, Orange 1

The Yellow Idols took the early lead against the Orange Shuttle Masters, 3-1.

Heo In Souk, Hapi Gabriel, Manatsu Omori, and Aries Cordero delivered the wins for Yellow Idols, while Orange's lone victory so far was courtesy of the tandem of Hannai Choi and Malou Malasarte.

Black Hawks 3, Green Bucks 0

The Blacks Hawks got off to a 3-0 lead in their second assignment.

The victories all came from doubles matches and three more wins will give the current leaders their second head-to-head triumph.

SAIPAN

From Page 28

and Jehn Joyner. The two players were a force in the net for the Tsunamis, hitting kills and digs against much smaller frontliners of opposing teams.

Joyner went on to win the junior varsity MVP trophy, while Choi was among the top players recognized in the league during a brief awards ceremony.

Joining Joyner and Choi in the elite class were Minori Yoshida of Whispering Palms, MBA's Won Woo Choi, GCA's William Henson, Seventh Day Adventist's Jirine Lacarte, Calvary's Michael Fidelino, and SIS' Chris Cepeda and Hyun Wo Jo.

Meanwhile, in the battle for third place, the MBA Stormz edged Whispering Palms in three sets.

The Top 3 placers in the league were awarded trophies. The GCA Eagles also went home with a trophy after winning the Sportsmanship Award.

Meanwhile, the playoff round in the varsity division will start today.

MARATITA

From Page 28

back bids. The Saints trimmed the Aces' lead to 10, 34-24, showing some effort in working their way back into the game in the third canto.

However, the comeback attempt came too late and even though the Saints had plenty of opportunities in this matchup, they simply missed too many shots and had turnovers in the final quarter.

Josh Kyoshi tallied 10 marks for the Saints in the fourth, as he tried to help his team bounce back. However, the effort came up short, as the Saints had questionable decisions in the closing minutes of the match.

It was only four-point game with less than four minutes to go and the Saints never called a timeout to work things out. It was still a four-point game with under a minute to go and the Saints still elected not to call a timeout. The Saints also had fouls to give, but did not use them to stop the clock and hope for Ol'Aces' misses.

In contrast, the Ol'Aces used their timeouts in the end to regroup and close out the contest.

Ol'Aces 52 – Maratita 20, Ichihara 9, Ogumoro 7, Lisua 6, Rangamar 3, Dillay 2, Kautz 2, Taylor 2.

Saints 46 – Kiyoshi 16, Iglesias 12, Aughenbaugh 10, Rasa 7, Brennan 1.

Scorning by quarters: 8-2, 24-8, 34-24, 52-46.

Weekend Sports

Level of competitions rises

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

With higher stakes on the line, various leagues and tournaments last week produced high level of competitions.

In the playoff round of the junior varsity division of the 2010-2011 Coalition of Private Schools Sports Association Volleyball League, only two of the eight teams were left standing by Thursday.

Then at the start of the weekend, Saipan Community School claimed its first junior varsity title in volleyball after pulling off an upset against pennant champion Saipan International School.

Saipan Community and SIS battled the junior varsity crown against Grace Christian Academy, Whispering Palms, Seventh Day Adventist, Mt. Carmel School, and eventual third placer Marianas Baptist Academy.

In basketball, defending champion MDX-Chow Queen returned to the UFO finals after outclassing SIP-Mobil in a do-or-die game. The heated match had MDX surviving SIP despite losing its suspended coach and key player.

Also earning a slot to the finals was MAFEA-Ebisuya, which booked the first finals berth in the masters division after beating VisMinda-Kids Cove.

Still in basketball, Saipan Southern High School and Marianas High School swept their assignments last week in the MISO girls caging. The Lady Rays beat Kagman in both the varsity and junior varsity games last Monday and the Lady Dolphins did the same against the Lady Ayuyus last Wednesday.

In soccer, the five-team 2010 Bud Light CNMI Elite Soccer Tournament had Saipan Blue winning the competition after edging Saipan White in the finals at the Oleai Sports Complex Field, 2-1.

Over at the Hopwood Junior High School Field, MP United notched its fourth win in as many games, while Paire Black also won in the boys U14 division of the NMIFA fall league.

Other age groups had their respective matches in Week 4 of the fall league at the various school fields on Saipan.

In cycling, Guam's Jazy Garcia sprinted to victory in the pre-Hell of the Marianas race, slipping past three Saipan riders. The 50K race drew about 100 bikers.

Also showing some speed was Kai Staal, who competed in the 2010 FINA/ARENA Swimming World Cup in Tokyo, Japan. Staal timed in at 23.99 seconds in the 50m freestyle race, reestablishing himself as the fastest swimmer in the CNMI right now.

In badminton, Nadia Bleaken, regional development manager of Badminton Oceania, visited Saipan and held a mini clinic at Mt. Carmel School and Marianas High School.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Players from the participating team in the 2010 Bud Light CNMI Elite Soccer Tournament pose for a group photo at the conclusion of the weekend event at the Oleai Sports Complex.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Badminton Oceania regional development manager Nadia Bleaken, seated front, poses with Mt. Carmel School students and members of Northern Marianas Badminton Association at the conclusion of a mini clinic at the MCS Gymnasium last Friday.

MP United U6 Silver team players and coaches gather for a photo following their recent victory at the Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

MDX-Chow Queen's Banjo Basilla attacks the defense of SIP-Mobil players during their semis game in the UFO caging last week at the JP Center Basketball Court.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Two bikers head to the finish line of the 50K pre-Hell of Marianas Race at the Pacific Islands Club parking lot.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Whispering Palms' Lucy Park kneels to return the ball to Saipan Community School during their semis game in the COPSSA volleyball league last week at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Kagman High School and Saipan Southern High School players battle for the rebound during the junior varsity game in the MISO caging last week.

Saipan Tribune
Sports

Saipan Community School takes JV crown

WALTER SUTHERLAND

Members and coaches of Saipan Community School pose with their championship trophy after beating Saipan International School in the junior varsity finals of the COPSSA volleyball league yesterday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

By WALTER SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

The Saipan Community School swept Saipan International School in the finals to win the junior varsity championship in the 2010-2011 Coalition of Private Schools Sports Association Volleyball League

The Tsunami took the opening set by eight points, 25-17, and played even better in the second set for a 25-16 victory and a sweep of the championship game last Friday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

It was a sort of an upset win for Saipan Community as it defeated the top-seeded SIS Geckos in the finals. The Geckos topped the double-round robin regular season with their 13-3 record, while the Tsunamis finished sixth in the nine-team field with their 9-7 mark.

Saipan Community and SIS's bids for this season's junior varsity division title started last Monday with the former prevailing over Calvary Christian Academy and Whispering Palms to advance to the finals. The Geckos defeated Mt. Carmel and then Marianas Baptist Academy to march to the championship round.

In the first two playoff games and in the finals, Saipan Community managed to came out the winner, thanks to the tandem of Tommy Choi

See SAIPAN on Page 26

Black Hawks soar to early lead in Trader's tourney

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The Black Hawks pose for a group photo before the opening of the Traders Insurance badminton team tournament last Friday at the REM Center. The Black Hawks won their opening game, beating Royale Blue, 8-1, last Friday.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The Black Hawks had a good take off in the opening week of the 4th Annual Traders Insurance Badminton Team Tournament, as they claimed the early lead in the seven-squad field.

The Black Hawks had 32 sets won after the games last Friday and Saturday for a 12-set lead over second-running Red Hot Chili Shuttlers (20 sets won) Currently in third place are the Orange Shuttle Masters (18 sets won), followed by the Pink Dynamites (16), Royale Blue (15), Green Bucks (16), and Yellow Idols.

This year's Traders Insurance badminton tournament has a round-robin format in the elimination phase. In every game, each team will play 10 games. However, in the first two days of the tournament, only the Red Hot Chili and Green Bucks and Pink Dynamite and Orange Shuttle Masters pairings completed their games. The remaining games in other pairings will be played

See BLACK on Page 26

Andersen Bombers cream Saipan teams

The Andersen Bombers' Matt Huston goes for a flashy shot against the Budweiser Selection during their exhibition game at the Marianas High School Gymnasium. ROSELYN B. MONROYO

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The Andersen Air Force Base men's basketball team swept its series of exhibition games against three Saipan teams over the weekend, recording a whopping winning margin of 48.3 points.

The Bombers first played against the CNMI Nationals last Friday at the Northern Marianas College Gymnasium and won by 29 points. The visiting team from Guam then went to the Marianas High School Gymnasium to clobber the Budweiser Selection and Marianas Wireless to complete the sweep. The Bombers prevailed against the Budweiser Selection by 46 markers last Saturday and 70 against Marianas Wireless yesterday.

The visitors used their height and heft advantage to dominate their foes inside. Once big guys Jones Evans, Fred Jones, and Darius Steele were in the paint, it was already money in the bank for Andersen. Steele was the tallest player on his team at 6"8', while

See ANDERSEN on Page 26

Maratita powers Ol'Aces past Saints

The Ol'Aces' Juan Maratita goes for a fall-away jumper against Saints defenders during their game in the Rotary caging last Friday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium. WALTER SUTHERLAND

By WALTER SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

The Ol'Aces held the Saints to two points in the opening quarter en route to a 52-46 win in their game in the U19 division of the 2010 Saipan Rotary Club Youth Basketball League last Friday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The win moved up the Ol'Aces to fourth place in the team standings, as they improved to a 3-2 record. The Saints dropped to an even 1-1 record.

Playing their first game since the suspension of the league, the long lull affected the Saints, as they only scored one basket in the opening quarter. The Ol'Aces were also sluggish, but still led after the first period, 8-2.

In the second quarter, the Ol Aces found some rhythm and tripled the Saints' score, 24-8, heading into halftime. Juan Maratita led the Aces in the first half with 10 markers. Ben Iglesias scored three of the four baskets in the opening frame for the Saints.

Maratita kept going, adding six more points in the third for the Aces and thwarting the Saints' repeated come-

See MARATITA on Page 26